

ETHIOPIA PLAYS DOWN KENNEDY VIP RECEPTION

By R. BARRY O'BRIEN in Addis Ababa

SENATOR EDWARD KENNEDY'S visit to Ethiopia was given low-key coverage in the State-controlled media yesterday as the Marxist military régime continued to play down America's increasing role in the international famine-relief operation.

The visit has been overshadowed by the talks in Moscow between Lt-Col Mengistu, the Ethiopian leader, and senior Soviet Government officials, and reports of Soviet promises of increased co-operation in Ethiopia's 10-year development plan.

The Democratic Senator from Massachusetts is being presented to Ethiopians as just another world figure being received by the régime in its efforts to win international aid for more than seven million drought victims.

Television and newspaper coverage has given no hint of the importance which is in fact being attached to the visit by Ethiopian officials, because of the famous Kennedy name and the Senator's hopes of being Democratic contender for the Presidency in 1988.

Senator Kennedy, who is with his son Teddy Kennedy Jr. and daughter Kara, is being given maximum red-carpet VIP treatment.

He is being accompanied on his three-day tour of famine districts by a twin-engineered



Dakota of Ethiopian Airlines by senior Ethiopian officials who are thus away from their Addis offices for the best part of a working week.

The officials are having to rough it by staying overnight in small towns in remote famine areas because the Senator wants to stay in the field the whole time instead of flying back each night to the comfort of the Addis Ababa Hilton like most VIPs.

But the coverage of his visit, which began on Tuesday night, has been confined so far to a meeting with Mr Berhannu Bayih, the Acting Politburo head.

Out of disgrace
There has been no report of Senator Kennedy's arrival at Addis Ababa that "many millions of Americans" cared deeply about the Ethiopian tragedy.

There was also no mention in newspapers yesterday of his visit to the John F. Kennedy memorial library at Addis Ababa University, built with \$2.5 million (£2.1 million) given by the American Government in 1985 and now again receiving gifts from the United States in a resumption of cultural assistance programmes sus-

Cash crisis threatens U.N. refugee agency

By JAMES MACMANUS Diplomatic Staff

A THIRD appeal in six weeks is to be launched today for drought victims in northern Africa by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, in response to a situation "galloping out of control," according to a spokesman last night.

"For the first time in our history we are running out of money," Mr Michel Barton said in Geneva.

The Geneva-based United Nations agency, which depends entirely on voluntary contribu-

tions from Governments, appealed for £7.5 million on Nov. 8, to help 800,000 people made homeless by drought in Ethiopia, Somalia, Sudan and the Central African Republic.

The agency issued a further request on Dec. 7 for £12 million for 360,000 hungry and homeless people.

Today's appeal, to be announced at a Press conference in Geneva, will be for almost double this joint amount and will focus exclusively on western Sudan, where 1.2 million people are affected by drought.

Mr Barton said up to 1,500 refugees were crossing daily from Chad into Sudan on some days.

The situation in western Sudan where 100,000 Chadians are refugees competing for aid with an increasingly hungry local population, had largely been eclipsed by the greater tragedy of Ethiopian refugees arriving in eastern border areas.

MORE E.E.C. AID
Given boost by 'Ten'

ALAN OSBORN reports from Brussels: The ten Common Market Governments have been asked to provide an extra 400,000 metric tons of grain to relieve famine in Africa, following the declaration at the Dublin summit two weeks ago that the Community would send 1.2 million tons to the stricken countries.

The E.E.C. can provide 800,000 tons from its own programmes, covering food aid, assistance to developing countries and emergency assistance. It was disclosed yesterday that the remaining 400,000 tons will be met by member countries.

Shock turn in Sharon libel suit

By TONY ALLEN-MILLS in New York

GEN. ARIEL SHARON'S multi-million dollar libel suit against TIME magazine took a surprise turn yesterday shortly after the former Israeli defence minister's lawyers rested their case.

They had expected that in the afternoon session TIME would present its first defence witnesses to rebut Sharon's claim that the magazine libelously accused him of instigating the 1982 massacre of Palestinian refugees in Beirut.

But the Sharon side was astonished when, instead of beginning what was expected to be a long and complex defence, the magazine's lawyers rested their case immediately.

So unprepared was Mr Milton Gould, Gen. Sharon's senior lawyer, that he was unable to make a summing-up speech to the jury, the next step in the process.

Even more surprised was Gen. Sharon, who was said yesterday to have left for Israel on a midday flight, sure that he would not be required before proceedings were suspended for the Christmas recess.

The development raised the prospect of a much quicker end to the case than anyone imagined.

The court is expected to adjourn for Christmas after a brief session today and unless the judge keeps things going in the hope of a quick verdict, the summing-up speeches will be heard when the court resumes on Jan. 2.

Similar case
Meanwhile, another similar action involving a distinguished general and a major American news organisation was also adjourned for Christmas, but in Gen. William Westmoreland's case against CBS, the legal battle is likely to stretch well into 1985.

The 70-year-old general, former American commander in Vietnam, had been accused by a CBS documentary of disguising the true level of enemy troop strengths to make it appear that America was winning the war.

When the trial began 11 weeks ago there was wide expectation that it might turn into an expensive series of strategies and attitudes during the Vietnam era.

But far from sweeping grandly across America's role and purpose in fighting the war, the case was concentrated on the nitty gritty of intelligence gathering.

JAIL DEMANDED FOR JOURNALIST
A martial law prosecutor has opened proceedings against the editor-in-chief and a columnist of the conservative Turkish daily, TERCUMAN, staff of the newspaper said yesterday.

They said the prosecutor called for jail terms of up to three years for the editor, Yusuf Bastuoc, and the columnist, Nazli Ilıcak, who are accused of breaching a provisional article of Turkey's 1982 constitution banning criticism of military rule from 1980 to 1983. No date has been set for the hearing.—Reuters.

'DISCRIMINATION' MOVE ATTACKED
By Our Auckland Correspondent

Mr David Lange, New Zealand Prime Minister, was criticised in Parliament yesterday when he announced he had signed a document ratifying the convention to eliminate discrimination against women.

Mr Jim McLay, Leader of the Opposition, said the convention was being ratified after the Government had refused to allow the public, particularly women, to discuss its various aspects.

Christmas carollers entertaining Mrs Thatcher during her visit to a Hongkong kindergarten yesterday.

Pentagon 'leak' theory in spy-satellite row

By FRANK TAYLOR in Washington

THE row over publication by the American Press of details of a new spy satellite may have been deliberately provoked by the Pentagon as part of a campaign for more public support for its military space programmes, according to intelligence sources.

Those familiar with the Byzantine power struggles that go on within and between the more important Government agencies in Washington believe the latest dispute may have little to do with giving away secrets to the Russians.

One informant said Mr Caspar Weinberger, Defence Secretary, may have been keen to draw the public to his side during the continuing wrangle over the defence budget.

The theory goes that now is the time to cash in on President Reagan's overwhelming re-election victory, coupled with a perception among senior aides that the public is not happy with a Press that usually takes an adversarial position.

There are those in the Pentagon who would like the Air Force to have its own space shuttle programme, wholly independent of NASA, the civilian space agency.

The present row over disclosure of the spy satellite is being put in orbit by NASA's shuttle programme, which could, it is felt, lead to pressures in Congress to give the Air Force what it wants.

Press warned
Defence officials certainly seemed anxious to suggest that details of the satellite had been "leaked" not by the Pentagon but by civilians at the N.A.S.A. launch site at Cape Canaveral, NASA and the Press were delighted as the villains of the piece.

Many in Washington were puzzled by the way the Pentagon began this week's series of developments over the satellite launchings.

On Monday, Brig-Gen. Richard L. Bell called a Press conference to talk about the Discovery's

Swedish family firm in shipping's biggest crash

By JULIAN ISHERWOOD in Stockholm

SALENINVEST, one of the world's largest shipping companies, has filed for bankruptcy in Stockholm in what has been termed the "biggest crash in shipping history."

The Board of Directors of the Swedish family business filed for bankruptcy after the company terms for State financial guarantees.

Around 2,100 employees will lose their jobs and Salen's 140 ships are to be sold. Only 20 per cent of the company is to continue under new ownership.

Mr Folke Havik, director of the Swedish Machine Engineering Officers Association, said yesterday: "The bankruptcy will cause damage to world trade routes that will take many years to repair."

More than half Israel's orange export would be affected, he said.

Tankers 'dumped'
Company officials said a poor shipping market, the high rate of the dollar and over-optimism in company dealings had led to the downfall of the company, which has returned deficits totalling 1,160 million in the past seven out of 10 years.

Salen was forced to sell many tankers in the middle of the 1970s at dumping prices because of a slow world freight market. This year's losses are estimated at 230 million.

The capital loss incurred and the ensuing slump in freight rates on refrigerated ships, of

HERRING BONUS FOR BRITAIN

By JOHN LICHFIELD in Brussels

BRITISH and other Common Market fishermen will start the New Year knowing how much they are allowed to catch for the first time in E.E.C. history.

E.E.C. fisheries ministers reached agreement on 1985 quotas for all major fish species in the early hours of yesterday.

In previous years fishermen have had to make do with provisional limits while negotiations dragged on until as late as December.

The figures agreed yesterday gave substantial increases in the British fleet's permitted catch of cod, haddock, herring, plaice and whiting in the North Sea.

Mackerel and herring catches in the Atlantic west of Scotland were reduced to conserve stocks, in line with scientific advice.

The most dramatic increase was in the North Sea herring catch where the British quota was almost doubled to slightly more than 63,000 tons.

Disaster warning
This follows a remarkable recovery in the North Sea herring shoals which were fished almost to extinction during the 1960s and early 1970s. A complete ban on fishing was imposed for five years from 1977, and the herring stocks in the North Sea are now flourishing.

For the second year in succession, however, the Common Market and Norway have failed to agree on a division of permitted herring catches.

Brussels and Oslo as a result have set independent catch limits which, taken together, go beyond the maximum recommended by scientists.

British fishermen's leaders at the negotiations in Brussels warned that disaster could again await the herring shoals unless agreement is reached with Norway by 1986.

The recovery of the herring and other major North Sea species such as cod and haddock is seen in Brussels as a vindication of E.E.C. fisheries policy, and the tougher controls on catches imposed by the E.E.C. Commission for the first time this year.

Overall quotas in all sea areas allocated to the British fleet for major species in 1985 (with 1984 figures in brackets) are: cod 132,510 tons (117,910); haddock 150,070 tons (140,640); sole 22,480 tons (20,860); whiting 84,890 tons (79,480); plaice 58,920 tons (55,710); mackerel 220,330 tons (225,700); herring 105,080 tons (80,000).

EEC IN GOOD SHAPE TO MEET TRADE WAR

The ten Common Market countries are in a good shape to meet the international trade challenges of the United States and Japan, Viscount Davignon, the E.E.C. industry commissioner said yesterday in a farewell speech.

Viscount Davignon, who many regard as having been the main inspiration behind the outgoing E.E.C. Commission, is returning to business life in Belgium though it is widely believed he will return to politics.

POLICE RETAIN TWO ITN TAPES

By Our Johannesburg Correspondent
Security police have returned all but two of the 35 video cassettes seized on Wednesday from the Johannesburg offices of Independent Television News, an ITN spokesman said yesterday.

One of the cassettes still with police contains an interview with Mrs Ela Ramgobin, a granddaughter of Mahatma Gandhi and wife of Mr Sewa Ramgobin, arrested on high treason charges when the sun in the British Consulate in Durban ended earlier this month.

FISHERMEN FREED
The Burmese authorities yesterday released 34 Thai fishermen detained for more than a year, it was announced in Bangkok. The fishermen were among 800 Thais held after they were caught fishing in Burmese waters.

TOP SOVIET VISITOR
By NIGEL WADE in Moscow
Mr Ivan Arkhonov, a Soviet First Deputy Prime Minister, left Moscow for Peking yesterday, the highest-ranking Russian to visit China since 1963.

Refugees return as deadly gas stocks are made safe

By DAVID GRAVES in Bhopal

TENS of thousands of people struggled to return home to Bhopal yesterday as the last of the chemical stocks which caused the world's worst industrial disaster were neutralised.

Buses and trains were packed as many of the 250,000 who had fled started to return.

Life in the central Indian city began to pick up as "Operation Faith" — the neutralisation process — drew to a close.

Nearly a third of Bhopal's population had feared that, despite stringent precautions while the gas was being treated, there could have been a repetition of the poison cloud leak that killed 2,500 people on December 3.

Bhopal had become a ghost city when scientists began the operation on Sunday.

By yesterday they had converted all but three tons of the remaining deadly methyl isocyanate into agricultural pesticides at the American-owned Union Carbide plant on the outskirts of the city.

Wards packed
A small amount of the lethal chemical will be kept for examination by police investigators who will move into the plant to discover how the gas leaked and who was responsible.

Tankers yesterday continued to spray water over most of Bhopal's major roads and fire crews drenched sacking draped 20ft-high around the barbed-wire fence of the sprawling factory as a precautionary measure.

Life was slowly returning to normal. Some shops and businesses reopened and the streets of the old quarter, which had earlier been deserted, were teeming again.

Wards at the City's Hamidia Hospital were still packed with victims—men, women and children lying side by side, swathed in bandages.

As many as 150,000 survivors may be left with permanent disabilities—blindness, sterility, kidney and liver infections, tuberculosis and brain damage.

Dr N. R. Bhandari, SL, the hospital superintendent, said: "It is like treating the effects of a chemical war. In many cases we don't know if any additional symptoms will develop, and over what period."

The Madhya Pradesh State Government has decided to close its 10 relief camps set up to house 10,000 refugees from the city and urged inmates to return home now that the danger of a further gas leak had been removed.

However, many refugees have protested that the authorities should announce more positive rehabilitation to compensate for loss of livelihood through death or incapacity of family members.

There was considerable speculation in Bhopal yesterday that Union Carbide had decided to close the plant and was planning to pay off workers, although there was no official announcement.

Mr Arjun Singh, Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh, has repeatedly said the factory would not be allowed to resume production.

Polish leader aims for a fitter party team

By ROBIN GEDYE in Warsaw

POLAND'S Central Committee meets today in plenary session, three years and one week after martial law saved the Communist party apparatus from collapse.

The extent of its return to grace remains debatable. The murder of Fr Popieluszko, expected to be discussed at the plenum, exposed divisions within the state's ideological core which three years of harsh pruning has failed to eradicate.

Party membership dropped by one-third, from 3.1 million shortly before the emergence of Solidarity in August 1980, to 2.2 million, around which it has more or less remained static for a year.

In 1983 the party expelled 8,000 members for lack of ideological commitment. According to Mr Jerzy Majka, chief of the Central Committee Press Department, Gen. Jaruzelski, the party leader, does not want membership to exceed three million until the end of the decade.

The aim is to achieve a leaner, fitter organisation more able to cope with the political opposition era.

But Fr Popieluszko's murder pointed clearly to the disease of extremism on both sides of the Polish political spectrum that has plagued the nation throughout its history.

Hard-line plot
Talk of a plot backed by neo-Stalinist hard-liners within the party to precipitate another crisis in Poland that could lead to an even harsher régime continues to be the accepted explanation for the murder.

Supporters of such ideological extremism are not merely confined to the security forces. They are still, despite Gen. Jaruzelski's best efforts, not only within the party Central Committee but in government itself.

It is both such extremists and those who show signs of being apologists for Solidarity whom the party have sought to eradicate from its ranks.

Maucy Mochnacki, one of Poland's best-known political thinkers, wrote 150 years ago: "Under strong government the Poles rebel because they have to, under a weak government because they can."

ENVOY'S PEACE PLAN FACES RACISM CHARGE

M. Edgard Pisani, France's special envoy, returned yesterday with a series of options for the troubled South Pacific island's future.

He was sent to the French territory after violence flared between the minority indigenous Kanaks seeking independence and the majority white settlers and immigrants favouring continued ties with France.

Mr Pisani has suggested a referendum in a separate ballot, suiting the Kanaks on independence in a separate ballot, says a separate opposition spokesman. —Reuters.

POPE'S PLEA TO WORLD YOUTH

From LESLIE CHILDE in Rome

THE Pope yesterday called on young people everywhere to reject drugs, alcohol, promiscuous sex and what he called "dangerous ideologies."

His passionately-worded plea was contained in his annual message for world peace. He spoke of the difficult time when the threats of destruction, violence and war are many.

His eight-language message, destined for the Roman Catholic Church's annual "World Day of Peace" on Jan. 1, is addressed to "All people of good will." It put special emphasis on the young because of the United Nations making 1985 "International Youth Year."

He attacked Marxist-inspired ideologies and hoped for a more positive political system and ideas as a principal cause of tensions in today's world.

The Polish-born Pope invited the world's youngsters "to take up your responsibility in this greatest of spiritual adventures to build human life, as individuals and in society, with respect for the vocation of man."

He continued: "Your choices will now decide whether in the future you will suffer from the many of ideological systems that reduce the dynamics of society to the logic of class struggle."

The values that you choose will decide whether relations between nations will continue to be overshadowed by tragic tensions that are the product of undeclared or openly proclaimed designs to subvert all peoples to regimes where God does not count."

FRANCE WILL MONITOR CHAD WITHDRAWAL

French and Greek military officers, who are already in the 30 to Chad to monitor the withdrawal of Libyan troops from yesterday, it was announced in Paris.

France withdrew its 5,500 troops from Chad where they had been backing President Habbema against Libyan-supported rebels after signing a withdrawal agreement with Libya on Sept. 17.

Both sides announced that withdrawal had been completed by November 10. But President Gaddafi and afterwards announced that Libyan troops were still present in the northern parts of the African republic.—Reuters.

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MPs ATTACKED OVER AIRPORT PLEDGE DELAY

By PETER PRYKE Parliamentary Correspondent

CONSERVATIVE MPs who, backed by Labour and Liberal Members, have held up the progress of a Bill limiting the number of air movements at Heathrow were castigated by Mr Nicholas Ridley, Transport Secretary, in the Commons yesterday for delaying the implementation of a party pledge.

Three rebel Tories, who are among a considerable number of their colleagues who believe that the Civil Aviation Bill is a back-door device for the expansion of Stansted airport, blocked the Bill's progress by voting against a motion authorising sitting dates for its committee stage.

Announcing that the Bill would not be proceeded with until after a decision on the development of Stansted, Mr RIDLEY said the Government had sought to honour its promise to limit movements at Heathrow.

He said that it was plain "where the blame lies" for the delay in honouring the pledge. But one of his critics, Mr ALAN HASELHURST (C, Suffolk), retorted: "You will exasperate MPs if you do not realise you must not pick and choose between the pledges you honour."

He would also "risk a certain amount of exasperation" among Conservatives if he insisted on saying that there was no connection between the contents of the Bill and decisions on airports policy.

Powers 'needed'
In his statement, Mr RIDLEY said that proceeding with the Bill would not have prejudiced the decision he had made for the Minister for Housing would have to take on Stansted.

The Bill was required whatever decisions were taken on Stansted.

"The Government will need the powers in the Bill if at any time it is decided to impose a limit on air traffic movements at any British Airports Authority airport for environmental reasons."

Equally, it will need the powers even if the environmental limit at Heathrow were not imposed, because both Heathrow and Gatwick are rapidly approaching the point when demand for runway space will exceed the physical capacity for extended periods of the day."

Mr PETER SNARE, from the

£95,000 defence appointment 'stinks' says Kinnock

By WILLIAM WEEKES Parliamentary Staff

THE appointment of Mr Peter Levene as Chief of Defence Procurement in the Ministry of Defence at a salary of £95,000 a year was challenged by Mr KINNOCK, Leader of the Opposition, in the Commons yesterday.

"We and many others in this House and elsewhere think the whole appointment and everything connected with it stinks," Mr Kinnock told Mr BIFFEN, Leader of the House, who was deputising for Mrs Thatcher during her absence abroad.

He said the whole recent history of the Government's relationship with Mr Levene gave grounds for "great suspicion about the nature of that relationship."

Levene, chairman of United Scientific Holdings, is a man who has not only been paid more than twice the salary of the present Chief of Defence Procurement, Mr David Perry.

Thatcher approval
Mr Perry is to become the first Chief of Defence Equipment and Procurement at a salary of £45,000 a year, while Sir Frank Cooper, former Permanent Secretary at the Ministry of Defence, is to replace Mr Levene as chairman of United Scientific Holdings.

Defending Mr Levene's appointment, Mr BIFFEN said the task of maintaining an £8 billion budget was "formidable indeed."

He said that a salary of £95,000 a year was not a senseless one to what would be the return in the private sector.

Pressed by Mr WILLIAM Rayner in the past I think the



Mr KINNOCK: Grounds for great suspicion.

HAMILTON (Lab., Fife, Central), Mr Biffen declared: "I course the Prime Minister approved the appointment and the salary."

Demanding to know what possible justification there could be for giving Mr Levene the post, Mr KINNOCK asked: "By accepting a sum of £95,000 a year, do you think Mr Levene is pricing himself into a job?"

'Vital task'
Mr BIFFEN said the Defence Secretary, Mr Heseltine, was in a good position to make a judgement on who should fulfil this

"In going to the world outside Whitehall, he is merely repeating what was done with Lord

QUIET HIGH FLYER

By GERALD BARTLETT

THE Government's new £250,000-a-year chief arms buyer, Mr Peter Levene, 43, currently chairman and group managing director of United Scientific Holdings, has a reputation in the City as "a quiet but very bright young high flyer."

The man whose appointment as Chief of Defence Procurement, Ministry of Defence, on a five-year contract caused controversy in the Commons yesterday, has served his electronics and arms firm from a London shop-front in Tottenham Court Road to a multi-million-pound supplier to the British military and a score of overseas armies.

£120m turnover
United Scientific Holdings, from small trading company beginnings in the 1960s, is today Britain's major electronics and arms firm with manufacturing operations in Coventry, Taunton, Somerset, Eritra, Kent, Chicago and Dallas in America; Singapore; Braunschweig, Germany; and Egypt.

The group, operating from Fitzroy Square, Tottenham Court Road, has an annual turnover of between £120 million and £130 million, a staff internationally of more than 4,000, and a book worth £160 million. Profits of £12.07 million were announced last week.

USH specialises in sophisticated high-technology optical and electronic equipment (like night vision, laser and fire-control systems for instance) and the manufacture of light fighting vehicles such as Scorpion tanks and tank turrets.

Levene, son of a London antique silver dealer, went into the company in 1963 from Manchester University where he gained a BA in economics and political science.

Languages paper
A chance decision after a "difficult period" with Unilever, the household products giant, sent Mr Levene on a management trainee course on which he produced a paper on the numerous languages in South-east Asia to help company salesmen.

He was introduced to a well-known figure in the electronics world, Mr Dennis Lindon, who asked him to work for his business selling army surplus equipment such as compasses and binoculars from his Tottenham Court Road shop.

The business had a sideline selling surplus parts to overseas governments and Levene was asked to compile a catalogue of what was available.

In the next five years, that



Mr Peter Levene: £95,000 salary.

side of the company developed more and more and when USH went public in 1978, it was as an armaments wholesaler with Peter Levene, then 26, as managing director.

In 1981 he became chairman and under his guidance the company blossomed. It moved into manufacturing equipment with the takeover of Helio Mirrors, Eritra, Kent, which makes tank periscopes.

Subsequently it bought out the Tautolo-based Avimo Optical and Engineering Group where today around 800 people manufacture sophisticated electro-optical military systems.

U.S. foothold
A foothold in the United States military market was obtained in 1978 with the purchase of a Dallas firm, Opto Electronic, now called Opto Electronic Components (O.E.C.).

Eighteen months later the group paid £4 million for night-vision makers Ni Tec of Chicago.

The company has established a company, Avimo Photo-Technic, in Lower Saxony, manufacturing and marketing professional camera systems, and Avimo International Optics (A.I.O.) in Egypt—an electronic defence systems operation in conjunction with the Egyptian Government.

Mr Levene, who besides his knowledge of Far Eastern languages is fluent in French, German, and Italian, lives in Henham, Norfolk, with two sons, John, 17, and Timothy, 11, and a daughter, Nicola, 14, who attended their father's old school, the City of London.

Mr Levene will be replaced as group managing director, U.S.H. by Mr David Fraser, 37, a tough businessman who has been with the company since 1974.

Mr Fraser is currently group operations director and was responsible for opening up the Singapore leg of the business. Married with one son, aged four, Mr Fraser and his family live at West Mall in Kent.

PPS APPOINTMENT

Lord Young, Minister Without Portfolio, has appointed Mr Robert Aikin, MP (South Ribblesdale) as his Parliamentary Private Secretary.

'Significant personal sacrifice'

By NICHOLAS COMFORT Political Staff

MR PETER LEVENE had made a very significant personal sacrifice in taking the job of Chief of Defence Procurement, Mr Heseltine, said yesterday.

The £95,000-a-year Mr Levene would be getting paid into insignificance beside the salary he had been getting in the private sector, said to be £140,000 a year, and the savings being initiated in the field of defence procurement.

The Defence secretary also disclosed that Mr Levene, chairman of United Scientific Holdings, had given an undertaking not only to sever his links with the company but that he would not return to the defence contracting industry for a fixed but unspecified period after leaving the Ministry of Defence.

Sir Frank Cooper, who retired as Permanent Under-Secretary at the Ministry of Defence at the end of 1982, pointed out yesterday that the period during which he required ministerial permission to take up an outside post was at the end of the month and he was due to leave USH until the end of March.

Under existing regulations, a senior civil servant can take no outside employment for three months after leaving Whitehall, and must sever ministerial permission if he does so within two years.

Rayner example
Sir Frank has been undertaking a number of tasks in the private sector with the two-year period, with the approval of Mr Heseltine.

Questions were also being raised yesterday as to why Mr Levene could not have his salary paid by his present employer, rather than by the taxpayer, as has been the case when Lord Rayner, now chairman of Marks and Spencer, moved into Whitehall to promote efficiency.

Mr Heseltine covered this point by stating that since the MOD, Mr Levene would be ending his correspondence with United Scientific Holdings. For the company to pay his salary would heighten claims of a "conflict of interest."

It was also asked why Mr Levene would not be happy with the prospect of a knighthood or similar honour rather than with the £95,000.

However, Mr Heseltine stressed that securing Mr Levene's services was a difficult task, and that the Government had required stiff negotiation.

Hurd defends the use of supergrasses

By Our Parliamentary Staff

THE use of "supergrasses" was defended by Mr HURD, Ulster Secretary, in the Commons yesterday.

He said their evidence helped to detect crimes which would not otherwise have come to light.

Speaking in a week in which Northern Ireland's Lord Chief Justice, Lord Lowry, had acquitted 35 people of charges despite the evidence of an informer, he said that such evidence had to be weighed in the scales of justice.

"If a court rejects accomplice evidence it does not show the decision to prosecute was wrong any more than convicting a man in a case involving a member of the security services shows the case should not have been brought."

There is no reason in principle why the evidence should simply because it comes from an accomplice who has given evidence to the police."

Mr Hurd was speaking in a debate on the Bill for the Northern Ireland Emergency Provisions Act, which introduced no-jury trials. The report broadly endorsed the use of informers' evidence.

He indicated Government support for reform proposals in the report, including the removal of some lesser offences from the special powers, the rationalisation of arrest powers and the exclusion of evidence secured by force or under pressure.

Mr PETER ARCHER, Shadow Ulster Secretary, criticised no-jury trials for "risking injustice to the innocent" and indicated that the time had come to abolish them.

There had been a fall in the acquittal rate in the last two or three years, and reports of convictions which some found surprising, he said.

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We require three Planning Engineers with documented competence in outside-plant Network Engineering and Construction. The Candidates should have a University degree, or equivalent, and possess 5-10 years experience in this field.

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Position would suit ambitious person with experience in housewares or allied business who will enjoy working in busy environment. Successful applicant will be directly responsible to the board of directors. Send full C.V. and snapshot to S.M.18740, Daily Telegraph, E.C.1.

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These information sheets are up to date summaries of the opportunities in various careers. They list specialist recruitment agencies, publicists offering job vacancies and sources of further information.

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THE ARTS

FILMS / The Swing

Limp let-down in Munich

The Swing (PG)

Everman, Dec. 26
Screen on the Hill, Jan. 3

A Man Like Eva (18)

Screen on the Hill, Jan. 3

Slow Moves

I.C.A. Jan. 2

THOSE SEEKING visual delight

in their Christmas cinema need

look no further than The Swing

from the German director Perce

Zoll, known for his sensitive

study based on the members of

Proust's household, "Celeste".

His inspiration is perhaps

habitually literary, for he

loved this with a film based on

remains of the "White

Noise" conspiracy of German

students against the Nazis, and

the new film has literary origins

in an autobiographical novel

written in 1934 by Annette

Kolb, esteemed for her work on

Ludwig II and Wagner.

Where it differs from its pre-

decessor is in scale, which

could hardly be bigger, the ob-

ject being to give an impression

social and political, of Munich

life late in the last century,

through the eyes of the author's

family under the name of

Lautenschlag.

The memory of the author,

who turns out to be the

youngest of four children, is

legged when the Glass Palace,

near which they lived in the

Sophtenstrasse, is destroyed by

fire in 1931, rather like, or

Crystal Palace which it recalled

in style and building date, 1854.

So the years around 1880 are

recreated in portraits and the

activities of this eccentric

family, and their friends, in

ravishing views of the city as

seen in colour by Jurgen

Martin's camera, and in the

occasional historical event.

Although Herr Lautenschlag

has an official post as landscape

gardener to the royal family,

life in their elegant town house

is surprisingly bohemian, money

being in short supply and the

subject of much quarrelling.

Fran Lautenschlag is French,

a talented pianist who gives

lessons to a leader, with her

slightly senile mother, living in

the house. Children range from

a placid 25-year-old daughter to

a 15-year-old "tomboy" named

Annette, but called Mathias. She

answers exactly to the descrip-

tion of "enfant terrible" with a

sharp sense of humour and a

talent for mimicry.

Life in their household pro-

vides continuous entertainment,

the children being especially

resonant.

Their liveliness is infectious,

seen most typically in their

climbing the circular staircase

within the 80ft bronze statue

representing Bavaria, inside

the Hall of Fame, then waving

wildly through the view holes.

As this suggests, the archi-

tectural background offered to

the camera is rich indeed in this

post-ludwig era, with examples

at every turn of Gothic, Renais-

sance, Neo-classical, Baroque

and Rococo styles.

Here Adoo is to be com-

mended for restraint, find-

ing only occasional views of the

Frankenkirche or Theatiner-

kirche, the Besidez or the

Hoftheater, and carefully

rationing the views of the in-

numerable statues, obelisks,

fountains and bridges.

His chief achievement is the

absorption of his characters

into this background and

period, and while only one

other family, that of a physi-

cian who is Protestant and

Prussian, is shown as friendly

with the Lautenschlags, who

are Bavarian and Catholic, the

scene seldom seems under-

populated, thanks to such set

pieces as a ball to introduce

Strauss's Emperor Waltz, or a

flower show in the Glass Palace

visited by the Crown Prince.

Only the coding to this urban

social round of receptions for

the adults and romps for the

children did I find disappoint-

ing. Their going to stay with

the family near the Zupitze and

the last view of them climbing

the snowcapped mountains

seemed completely out of

character for the film.

A pity, for there has been so

much to enjoy before, in the

picturesque background, the

costume and decor impeccably

in period, in the carefully

composed character studies, and

especially in the children's liv-

eliness, personified in Anja

Jaepicke's mischievous Mathias.

To fill in verbally with what

happens to them later was to

make the ending tamer still.

THE ACTRESS Eva Mattes

dressing up as a man, presum-

ably for a fancy dress party,

and the producer Laurens

Straub thinking she looks like

the late Rainer Werner Fass-

binder, does not seem the most

promising of origins for a full

length feature.

Still, here it is, under the

title of A Man Like Eva, direct-

ed by Radu Gabrea and pho-

tographed with some brilliance

by Horst Seiler, with Miss Mattes

lovingly impersonating Fass-

binder.

Looking very much like him,

too, as I last saw him walking

down a Berlin street in a felt

hat, black leather jacket, knee

breeches and Russian boots, his

face obscured by his long,

thio-framed spectacles and a

few weeks' growth of beard.

This outfit, used for jury

service at the film festival, no

doubt doubled for directing. At

all events Miss Mattes appears

like this throughout while

directing at a villa in suburban

Munich a very free version of

Dumas's "The Lady of the

Camellias".

Moody is running short, tem-

peraments running very high

as the Armand and Marquise,

portrayed by Werner Stocker

and Lisa Kreuzer, arouse the

jealousy of the director, who is

attracted to the actor and re-

sents his attraction to the

actress.

About Miss Mattes's Fass-

binder are touches of sadism

and masochism but no sugges-

tion of an affair of the heart

that made a string of the most

memorable post-war films.

What we have is a poor pas-

tiche of an early Fassbinder

film with the director caricat-

ured not least in the film he is

making, absurdly backed by

a Traviata music and with

some desperate touches of

Grand Guignol.

WHEN Jan Jost turned up a

few years ago, at a Taormina

festival, where he was making

his last film, he described him-

self to me as the last of the

American independent film

makers.

If by independence he meant

doing everything himself, he

may well have been correct, and

his latest film, Slow Moves, faith-

fully follows this pattern with

a long list of technical credits

against his name, including

singling the songs.

Only the actors appear to be

employed, perhaps even paid,

to enact what is described as a

realistic, unromantic rewrite of

Lang's "You Only Live Once"

of 1932—a much remade film.

Here the ill-fated couple are a

girl, first seen gazing from a

high bridge, with a view to

jumping, and an interfering

man who picks her up and takes

her for a ride, literally and

figuratively, down a very dreary

coastline.

Mr Jost's technical forte is

certainly not in sound record-

ing, though it contributes to the

enigma of these characters, that

one can hardly hear anything

they say.

But the few lines of commen-

tary (by Mr Jost?) are help-

ful, and if in the end it is not

quite clear how the man comes

to be shot in a supermarket, it

makes at least a dead end.

Better than the final title,

stating that the film was made

in five days for \$5,000, inviting

a number of ribald remarks which

Mr Jost, I know, will be the

first to appreciate.

Patrick Gibbs

Students' tribute

By Our Arts Staff

The Royal Academy of Music is mounting a festival of works by Sir Michael Tippett next February in celebration of his 80th birthday. The academy believes it will be the most comprehensive presentation given during his birthday year.

Highlight of the festival will be three performances in the Sir Jack Lyons Theatre of "The Garden" conducted by Nicholas Cleobury, principal opera conductor at the academy, who is masterminding the whole project.

What happened is illustrated by the letters and photographs of the men who were there brought home. They bear witness to an extraordinary moving event, when, for a moment before the hell that was to follow, British and German soldiers sang carols to each other, buried their dead without danger and exchanged presents.

This display continues until Feb. 24, while the other exhibition, which is of Academic Painters who depicted the First World War, is on until March 10. It consists mainly of works by artists who today are for-



Christine Kaufmann and Rolf Illig in "The Swing."

THEATRE / Back-street squalor

THE second revival, after 15 years of Edward Bond's once banned "Saved" at the Royal Court is out as sensitive as William Gaskill's earlier productions. That said, the play remains a sombre, impressive and tersely written indictment of a South London society so deprived as to be deprived, it offers an experience no serious playgoer should deny himself.

The painful scene in which a baby is strangled in death in its pram by a gang of hoodlums who include the father, remains a sickening exhibition of perverted and gratuitous lust. Yet it is not really offensive. Behind it one hears the author's howl of anguish at the latent violence in human nature. In fact, the events of 1984 have given his protest a new urgency.

The play's strength lies in

its precise and vivid examination of what motivated the infanticide—his sadly convincing picture of the back-street squalor of people who live in animals because they lack all mental equipment to understand or control the scared, primitive urges to swaggle, to grab, to resent, to despise, to destroy. They talk in instinctive clichés which Bond displays with a stylish literate humour.

The baby's stupid slut of a mother, Pam, her bated and hating parents who never talk to one another, the lout who bossesses and rejects her, and the carter boy, Len, who tries to reach out and help her—all these are drawn with pitiless eye and ear but a pitying heart.

Two other scenes remain dis-

turbingly the most. One is a mother, Pam, her bated and hating parents who never talk to one another, the lout who bossesses and rejects her, and the carter boy, Len, who tries to reach out and help her—all these are drawn with pitiless eye and ear but a pitying heart.

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John Barber

Pan, the flight of fancy

THAT BREATH-TAKING flight of fancy, the Royal Shakespeare Company's "Peter Pan" has returned again to the Barbican. Chorus, applause and hisses of 1982—a much remade film.

Here the ill-fated couple are a girl, first seen gazing from a high bridge, with a view to jumping, and an interfering man who picks her up and takes her for a ride, literally and figuratively, down a very dreary coastline.

Mr Jost's technical forte is certainly not in sound recording, though it contributes to the enigma of these characters, that one can hardly hear anything they say.

But the few lines of commentary (by Mr Jost?) are helpful, and if in the end it is not quite clear how the man comes to be shot in a supermarket, it makes at least a dead end.

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This display continues until Feb. 24, while the other exhibition, which is of Academic Painters who depicted the First World War, is on until March 10. It consists mainly of works by artists who today are for-

otten, and the aim is to correct the somewhat lopsided view which has grown up of art in the years 1914-18.

One of the discoveries of recent years has been the avant-garde artists of that period. Today we are familiar with Bomberg, Paul Nash, Wyndham Lewis and Nicholson. We forget that most artists who depicted the 1914-18 war were much more conventional, and the Imperial War Museum now reminds us what their work was like.

Terence Mulally

A Christmas in the trenches

TWO exhibitions at the Imperial War Museum, one of them with a Christmas theme, are an indication of what seems to be a marked revival of interest in the 1914-18 war.

The exhibition directly reminding us of Christmas is devoted to that strange, unofficial truce which took place in the trenches on Christmas 1914. Along a 25-mile area of the front, all was quiet.

What happened is illustrated by the letters and photographs of the men who were there brought home. They bear witness to an extraordinary moving event, when, for a moment before the hell that was to follow, British and German soldiers sang carols to each other, buried their dead without danger and exchanged presents.

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Some notices appeared in yesterday's later editions.

NEW PRICE UP

The admission charge at Kew Gardens is to be increased by 10p to 25p from Jan. 1, and the annual season ticket will be doubled to £24. Children under the age of 10 accompanied by adults and organised school parties will continue to be admitted free.

DAVID HOPPIT

TELEVISION / Macmillan at war

Super reminisce

EYES bright with the adrenalin of reminiscence, once seemingly on the edge of tears as he described the great victory parade of the Eighth Army in North Africa, the old actor-manager is reliving the last war. At 90, Harold Macmillan, or Lord Stockton, as he is now supposed to call him, has lost almost none of his touch. Occasionally he rambles ever so slightly, leaving the viewer adrift in a thicket of third-person pronouns. But the recall is total, the relish of great events undimmed, and the feeling for fine detail that of a man a third in age. The beauty of the Italian wine harvest ranks in his memory alongside the great glow of final victory.

Having lost his old sparring partner, Bob McKenna, Lord Stockton has been remembering his career as Resident Minister in the wartime Mediterranean in the company of Ludovic Kennedy. Macmillan at War (BBC1), edited into three half-hour programmes, concluding tonight, was recorded in a couple of two-hour sessions in one day at Macmillan's Sussex home, Birch Grove.

He was in his late forties, and still only an Under-Secretary, when Churchill asked him to go to his personal representative to the crucial North African campaign. Macmillan can remember the offer as "a most historic moment in my life likely to have." For the next 10 years, between 1942 and 1952, he was the centre of events in North Africa, Italy and Greece, acting largely behind the scenes as political adviser to the military.

He came to know Eisenhower, Alexander, de Gaulle and many more at close quarters, and formed his own strongly personal view of their characters and abilities. Eisenhower he saw as "a very good headmaster," possibly the only man who could have been the British and

COURT AND SOCIAL

Court Circular

BUCKINGHAM PALACE, Dec. 30.

His Excellency Mr. Jambayabazhar was received in audience by the Queen and presented the Letters of Recall of his predecessor and his own Letters of Credence as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary from the People's Republic of the Mongolian State to the Court of St. James.

His Excellency was accompanied by the following members of the Embassy, who had the honour of being presented to Her Majesty: Mr. Gonsureng Dugree (First Secretary) and Mr. Tumor-Ochiryn Munkhsaikhan (Attache).

Mrs. Banzhar had the honour of being received by the Queen. Sir Anthony Acland (Permanent Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs) and Mr. Tumor-Ochiryn Munkhsaikhan were also present, and the Gentlemen of the Household in Waiting were in attendance.

His Excellency Mr. Tsuruyoshi Hirahara and Mrs. Hirahara were received in farewell audience by the Queen, and took leave upon His Excellency's departure.

Forthcoming Marriages

The Hon. James Manningham-Buller and Miss N. M. Mackie
The engagement is announced between James Manningham-Buller, eldest son of Viscount Dillhorne and of Mrs. Stuart Mackie, and Miss N. M. Mackie, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. W. W. Macdonald, of Addington, Kent.

Mr. J. F. Molony and Miss C. C. Ponsbury
The engagement is announced between John F. Molony, son of Captain R. B. Molony, R.N., and Miss C. C. Ponsbury, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. W. W. Macdonald, of Addington, Kent.

Mr. M. D. A. Carmichael and Miss N. M. Mackie
The engagement is announced between M. D. A. Carmichael, son of Mr. and Mrs. J. W. W. Macdonald, and Miss N. M. Mackie, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. W. W. Macdonald, of Addington, Kent.

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1936 TV FETCHES

£1,100

By ALISON BECKETT
Art Sales Correspondent

A Baird Televisor, an early form of television set, fetched £1,100 at a Sotheby's sale at South Kensington yesterday.

The particularly unattractive item, nearly double the price of the most popular lot in the auction, which sold out at £2,775, with £2,200 for the best musical box and old record tin at up to £7 each.

Edwardian Ark
An Edwardian Ark, a rare and valuable piece of furniture, fetched £1,100 at a Sotheby's sale at South Kensington yesterday.

Old Christmas cards
A collection of old Christmas cards, including a rare and valuable piece of furniture, fetched £1,100 at a Sotheby's sale at South Kensington yesterday.

Nation saves only one 'Chatsworth'
Only one of the 13 Chatsworth old master drawings worth £12,737,160 which had their export licences delayed because of their importance after being sold in foreign markets, have been saved for the nation.

The last of the other 12, namely Rembrandt's five, seven-inch "View of Houtwaal" valued at £438,800, was granted a licence for export to the United States.

The group were the cream of the collection of 70 old master drawings auctioned at Christie's in 1947.

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Axe on grant for LSO is avoided

finds in Chichester

By KEITH NURSE
Arts Correspondent

A DECISION effectively to axe one of the four London symphony orchestras as part of a plan to switch more funds to the provinces has been put off by the Arts Council.

But it has agreed to go ahead with its plan, contained in the "Glory of the Garden" strategy document published in March, to reduce by £280,000—a 35 per cent cut—the grant to be paid in 1955-56 to the London Orchestra Concerts Board.

The Board is the body which distributes the early military occupation of Chichester.

The sequence of finds falls in with previous discoveries pointing to the early military occupation of Chichester.

The 2nd Augusta Legion was there, probably in the autumn of AD 43 and it was from the base that the Roman forces launched the assault on the Isle of Wight and the West Country the following spring.

Horse remains
Mr. Alec Down, who directed the excavations, said yesterday that it seemed likely the legion was at Chichester for about two years.

Overlying the site, the archaeologists found the remains of a substantial masonry house with more than five rooms, and dating from the late 2nd century AD. A part of the building was located during a dig in 1950. Large amounts of late 4th century pottery were also found.

Evidence of the later occupation at Chichester included deep pits which could have been the sites of late Saxon structures or houses, possibly dating from the 7th century AD. Finds recovered include a gold ring which British Museum experts have tentatively dated to the 12th or early 13th century.

RESEARCH SHIP DELIVERED 10 MONTHS LATE
The Natural Environment Research Council has taken delivery of the £25,000 research ship Charles Darwin, after a 10-month delay.

The council had refused to accept the vessel until propeller shaft vibration problems had been overcome.

It is now negotiating compensation for late delivery from British Shipbuilders, whose yard at Appledore in North Devon built the Charles Darwin designed to replace the ageing Chichester.

A major Indian Ocean survey which had been postponed in the summer will now go ahead next year.

CAB SHELTERS CAMPAIGN
By Our Transport Correspondent

The Heritage of London Trust, backed by £10,000 from the Greater London Council, is mounting a campaign to save the capital's last 15 shelters for cab drivers.

They were built under a charter started in 1875 to provide drivers with places to rest and get refreshments so that they could have to use public houses. Originally there were 61 of the wooden buildings.

More Roman finds in Chichester

finds in Chichester

By KEITH NURSE
Arts Correspondent

EVIDENCE of military occupation of Chichester, Sussex, in AD 43 during the westwards advance of the Roman army, has been uncovered by archaeologists.

Fragments from binged "cuirsas" personal armour and other equipment have been recovered by the Chichester Archaeological Excavation Unit from a site behind former council offices in the city centre.

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THE DECORATIVE DAUGHTER OF A FAMOUS MOTHER PROVES SHE HAS TALENTS OF HER OWN

A stunning beauty who helps turn make-up into a work of art

IN her pictures she is uncannily like her mother, Ingrid Bergman, but in the flesh Isabella Rossellini has an arresting Italian beauty and an unexpected vivaciousness, far removed from her mother's rather shy manner or the languorous beauty she herself portrayed in the Lancôme advertisements.

The occasion was the Paris launch of Lancôme's new spring colours, "L'Art Lumière," so the suitable and stunning setting was the Museum de l'Art Moderne against a backdrop of Dufy's luminous mural, La Fée Électrique.

Nevertheless it was the slight figure with the cropped, boyish haircut and the black velvet dress that stood out, even against the competition of such a work of art. She has a magnetic star quality of her own, plus talent too, which is soon to be revealed in the film "White Nights" which she has just completed

and in which she stars with Mikhail Baryshnikov and Gregory Hines.

At 32, twice married (her first marriage was to director Martin Scorsese) Isabella has come to acting late through journalism, then modelling. In fact, it was on a "shoot" for English Vogue that she

It was considered quite daring yet it worked very well and now Fort de Vialle is a best-selling product.

Instead of being influenced either by her mother's natural brand of beauty or Lancôme's highly fashion-conscious colour statements, she

keeps her make-up routine simple and switches products according to the condition of her skin and the seasons. But she always takes time to cleanse carefully.

Her skin is unbelievably clear and pale, her lashes amazingly long. Her curvaceous Armani dress of black velvet stunned the French, who would have preferred to

have seen her dressed in something by them; she does in fact dress at both Jean Paul Gaultier and Azzedine Azzedine.

Currently one of the world's highest-paid models, she is one of the few breed of personality plus faces with whom women in their thirties who spend money on make-up find it so much easier to identify.

Now the film is finished, what next? "Acting, if they'll have me," she says.

BY ANN CHUBB

met her current husband, 26-year-old Jonathan Wiederman when they both modelled for leading fashion photographer Bruce Webber.

With her \$50,000-dollar contract for Lancôme, Isabella takes a highly professional interest in beauty and watches intently the progress of the products she promotes. Her favourite advertisement is still the sleeping beauty of the Fort de Vialle promotion. As she said: "It was quite daring to do. We were all very scared because I had my eyes closed and that's very rare in a beauty ad."

says that she tries to keep a professional distance. And, while she will use a top make-up artist for special events or evenings, "when I'm not in front of a camera I wear only a very little foundation just to even out my skin and very little eye make-up because I find it difficult to do. But I'm crazy about very deep, dark, glossy lipsticks."

With the whole gamut of the Lancôme range to choose from, Isabella

RIGHT: launching Lancôme's new spring make-up colours. Isabella Rossellini, Ingrid Bergman's daughter. Picture by KENNETH MASON.



GETTING INTO SHAPE FOR BABY

WHEN so many couples make a decision that the time is right for them to start a family, and when so much is known about positive and negative factors in the child's prenatal development, then a preparation programme for a healthy pregnancy is a practical precaution.

Straightforward, unalarming advice on how to set about it is available in "Countdown to a Healthy Baby" by Heather Russell (Collins, £3.95). Most women now know that even minimal amounts of alcohol and a few cigarettes a day can affect the foetus and they should give up both in advance of trying to conceive. But other people's cigarette smoke, and highly-polluted streets full of lead fumes from petrol, also present a hazard.

Many women first suspect they are pregnant with their usual enthusiasm for coffee turns to revulsion, and with good reason.

The caffeine in tea, coffee or cola-type drinks can be a factor in birth defects if your intake is high enough, or in hyperactivity in children as they grow. One cup a day or a switch to decaffeinated drinks is the answer. And don't assume that chocolate and cocoa drinks are

checks. (There are Pre-conceptual clinics now, run by Foresight among other organisations.)

While the husband has a semen test to ensure his healthiness, the wife should have the blood test which shows immunity to rubella (German measles). The latter is essential

pregnant woman develops 50,000 calories worth of new tissue and needs an extra 50,000 calories to cope with the strain, but taken in quality not quantity. Around 150 calories extra a day (the equivalent of two slices of wholemeal bread) is enough during the first

intending to become pregnant.

Pre-natal care is essential at every stage of pregnancy, but another very practical book, "The Maternity Rights Handbook" by Ruth Evans and Lyn Durward (Penguin £3.95) points out that, if your G.P. does not provide

in a fee only care, or you do not wish him or her to do so, you can transfer for that period alone.

The Post Office will give a list of G.P.s in the area trained in maternity care, or you can get the list from the local Family Practitioner Committee.

Your new G.P. will also treat you for any other illnesses during your pregnancy. The handbook, compiled by the Maternity Alliance, concentrates especially on mothers who work during pregnancy.

It warns that the most innocuous fluids (like correcting fluid used by typists, for example) can contain harmful chemicals. While domes-

BY LYNNE EDMUNDS

caffeine-free; they are not. Tap water is not necessarily harmless either, particularly if you're in a soft water area. (Infant mortality and the number of congenital abnormalities among new-born babies are higher in these areas.)

You can ask your local water authority to test for safe levels of lead, cadmium, copper, and aluminium (they have a statutory duty to comply); or buy bottled mineral water as much as possible.

Before becoming pregnant, all advisors agree, both prospective parents should have paediatric

because a pregnant woman contracting the disease in the early months has a 50 per cent chance of having a severely handicapped baby.

Diet is important for both husband and wife for at least three months before conception, with a minimum of processed food, and the additives they contain, and as much fresh nutritious food as possible. This will lessen the mother's chances of suffering from morning sickness, leg cramps and high blood pressure and guard against a miscarriage or birth defects.

It is now known that a

three months, rising to 350 calories extra a day in the final six months.

Mothers on nutritious diets tend to gain an average of 23lb in weight and have bigger babies.

The large imbalance in the percentage of healthy births between mothers in different social groups in this country is put down mainly to the deficient diets of poorer mothers.

Medical drugs of all kinds, whether on prescription or not, have to be treated with great caution during pregnancy. This includes the Pill, so you should give it up three to six months before

microwave ovens are not a risk since they are not on all day. Industrial ovens, driers, and sealers give out significant non-ionising radiation which can lead to miscarriages.

Ionising radiation from X-ray machines and nuclear radiation can cause reproductive harm to men and women. New regula-

tions, due to come into force in early 1986, set differing low maximum levels for ionising radiation for pregnant women, women of reproductive age, and older women. There is a comprehensive list in the book of work hazards for pregnant women, from anaesthetics and solvents to pesticides and infectious agents. Some evidence, even if slight, and based on animal findings, shows that certain chemicals reduce male fertility and libido, and some damage the reproductive organs and cause impotence.

The handbook ranges through a long list of legal rights from right of return to work to family law and social benefits.

RINGING THE CODE

QUITE a few people are in for a surprise this Christmas. Instead of the traditional gift of a bottle of whisky or a nude girl calendar they will receive a key ring.

But it is a key ring with a difference. Attached to it is a brass tag engraved with a secret code.

That makes it a very special present, for it signifies that a subscription for one year has been paid to an organisation called Key Security Club.

Over 3,000 people have joined in the past few months, and many more are now paying the annual £5.75 subscription in the names of business friends, employees and relatives in a pre-Christmas gift rush.

Thousands of people lose their keys every year. Last year alone, some 20,000 keys and key rings were handed in to the London Transport Lost Property Office and the London main-line railways.

Only a small proportion ever get back to their rightful owners as there is no clue to identification.

Out of a total of 9,555 sets of keys handed in to London Transport last year, only 3,000 were restored to their owners. These figures do not include keys found in lost handbags and purses.

Replacement of a full set of keys by a loser is an expensive business. If, for security reasons, it is decided to have all the existing locks in the home or business changed, it becomes a very costly job indeed, probably running into hundreds of pounds.

Key Security Club is changing that picture. If keys attached to one of its new-style rings are lost, all that the loser has to do is drop them into the nearest postbox.

The Post Office will send them direct to the club service centre. The secret code also engraved on the tag enables the identification of the loser to be established immediately.

The keys are returned free, by first-class post or, in cases of emergency, by messenger on the same day, at the loser's own cost.

And, if the keys fail to be returned within two weeks and it becomes necessary for locks to be changed, the Club will pay the cost of replacement, up to a total of £100.

Once the original fee has been paid, other members of a family — up to a total of five — may be registered as members for a fee of £1 to £15 each.

Key Security Club is at 8, Princes Street, Hanover Square, London W1R 7RB.

By Robert Traini

YOU WRITE

ARE country people unfriendly to newcomers? Not according to Mrs Heather Russell of Torkers Green, Reading.

Contradicting Mary Jefferson's criticisms (Viewpoint last Friday), she gives her experience as someone who, after years in a town, moved to a village ten weeks ago. "I already know more people than I did in 10 years in my town road... have been offered lifts to various local places, been taken shopping, given eggs... had my bicycle repaired by a friendly neighbour."

Unlike in town, she finds that "most people you meet speak and are friendly. Give me villagers rather than townies any day."

Mrs Joan Hoysted of Chelmsford, Essex, writes to make an interesting suggestion over one of the factors which could feature in the large number of cat deaths — still not satisfactorily diagnosed. "Can the lack of talk of cat death during the war possibly be connected with the fact that in those days synthetic fabrics had barely made their appearance on the nursery scene? Are we paying a price for drip-dry, no-iron fabrics which lack the porosity and absorbent qualities of wool and cotton? Bedrooms were unheated then, by the way, and prams, well-sheltered, were put outside in every kind of weather."

The inexplicably high tem-

peratures of some babies who have become cat-death statistics certainly suggest this factor could be looked at.

A slightly harsh note on fashion for this festive season, comes from a Ripon, North Yorkshire, reader. Mrs A. Binners, who disapproved of the throwaway hairstyle and look of a young model. Preferably, she suggests, "She could have jumped out of her bath, put on a towel and gone as she was."

The eternal controversy over the use of Ms for women, either because marital status is not known or because people feel they should share the anonymous status of all men (since "Mr." tells you oth-

ing), rumbles on. A Hinkley reader (who, happily, signs herself Mrs D. J. Thomas) writes about her incomprehension of the extreme anti-reactions to the use of Ms of previous contributors on the subject.

"My dictionary defines it as 'the feminine of Mr.' Its arrival is long overdue." She points out that addressing a woman incorrectly as Miss or Mrs, when writing to her without personal knowledge of her status, could cause offence.

But she also, interestingly, asks for the old term of address of "Ma'am" — with its own ambiguity — to be revived. "Why should it be confined to royalty and police

and Services officers?" On the other hand, she insists, she is happy to use the masculine to be addressed in writing as Ms.

Mr T. D. Penrice, headmaster of Harecroft Hall School, Gosforth, Cumbria, writes to point out the interesting usage of "Miss" these days for married and unmarried teachers. "Does anyone share my dislike of that?" he wonders.

Ticket note: Mr Kenneth Warr, secretary of the Royal Photographic Society, wrote to point out that tickets for the all-day workshop on January 3 at the R.P.S. National Centre in Bath must be acquired in advance (apply to him at Society offices at The Octagon, Milton Street, Bath BA1 1DN).

HOT FAVOURITE WITH TOMORROW'S COOKS

THERE are signs that the next great discovery or those of us always searching for new taste sensations is likely to be Mexican food.

Certainly, in its range and subtlety of flavours and textures, and its complicated cultural history, it can provide an alternative to Indian or Chinese cuisine.

Louise Nichols, born in Mexico City but who moved to England 17 years ago with her Yorkshire husband, has been promoting her native food for most of that time. Her major step forward has come with the publication, this winter, of what is bound to become a classic, "Mexican Cookery" (Collins, £9.95).

Her introduction documents the history of Mexican cuisine, the Aztecs, who hand-patted their corn tortillas freshly before each meal (as Mexican families there, and in the United States, often still do) and whose emperors chose from a thousand dishes at each meal, including fish brought by runners from the Pacific and pheasants from far off Yucatan.

Then came the Spanish conquerors, who accepted the Aztecs' principal drink of chocolate and exported it to

A BOOK WITH THE TASTE OF MEXICO

Europe but, otherwise, for at least a century, stuck to their own food, importing pigs, chickens, cattle, and, wine and olive oil among other ingredients.

Tequila is also a Spanish invention. They distilled the juice of a previously-unknown type of agave (cactus-type) plant. Then, in the mid-19th century, Mexico was under French occupation and the results are still there in the baguettes, croissants, pâtés, crème caramel and other delicacies.

Louise's book details all this history and, as well as explanations of all the ingredients in her dishes, has useful tips on essentials, such as how to keep chilli fresh and how to revive yourself if you



bite into a ferociously hot one: chew cheese!

I asked an American friend with long experience of Mexican food to cook a menu from the wide selection, ranging over superb dips, soups, snacks, vegetables and salad dishes, meat and fish, breads and biscuits.

It was a varied and satisfy-

ing meal, starting with a spicy bean dip made with beans, cream cheese and chilis. We went on to stuffed tortillas.

These corn or wheat tortillas filled with chicken and topped with tomato sauce, cream and cheese. With them came a rice casserole with peppers, sour cream and

mozzarella cheese and a delicious stuffed courgette dish.

An original pork dish, pork in green tomato sauce, the meat marinated first in vinegar, salt, pepper and sugar, was the final savoury choice.

Then, from a mouthwatering selection of caramels, jellies, ice-creams, fruit dishes and sweet pancakes and fritters, our cook chose a superb mango cream with hazelnut rimmed mangoes can be used. It was subtly flavoured, creamy and delicious.

The overall view of the book is that it is ideal both for the newcomer to Mexican food and people like herself who are knowledgeable about it but do not know where to get many of the ingredients in Britain.

She found the recipes authentically Mexican — not the bastardised American versions — and also fairly simple and straightforward to follow, and applauded the chapter with suggested menus. But she wished there was more information about what preparations could be done in advance and which dishes could be reheated.

L.H.

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U.S. BUDGET DILEMMAS

THE PROSPECTS for President REAGAN's fiscal budget message get poorer by the minute. The President's problem is that by the end of January he must produce a budget which indicates to the financial markets that he is serious about deflating ballooning deficits, but which balances expenditure reductions in a way which will be broadly acceptable to both houses of Congress. Unfortunately, the President has made the job about as hard as it could be. During the election campaign he promised that taxes would not be raised under any circumstances—even in a revenue "enhancement" resulting from Treasury Secretary DONALD REGAN's ambitious tax reform proposals has been ruled out. The President is also pledged not to interfere with what the Americans call social security, but which we would regard as transfer payments to the relatively well-off middle classes.

As a result of allowing himself to be boxed into such a tight corner, Mr REAGAN has to find cuts of at least \$34 billion from programmes which have already felt the knife run close to the bone. He knows, however, that unless defence, which has been voted unprecedented resources for peacetime during the Reagan years, is also made to take its share of the pain, the package stands little chance of meeting with approval. In the words of the new Senate Majority Leader, Mr ROBERT DOLE, unless deep cuts in domestic spending are matched by some restraint at the Pentagon, the President's budget will be "dead on arrival" when it reaches Congress.

On the evidence of the past few days, Senator DOLE's forebodings look justified. The President has allowed his Defence Secretary, Mr CASPER WEINBERGER, to suggest cuts which are more apparent than real. Although it is claimed that they actually exceed the \$8 billion which DAVID STOCKMAN, the Budget Director, is looking for, it has not escaped the notice of Congressional leaders that most of the trimming is just moving numbers around the ledger. The hard fact is that unless a major weapons programme, such as the MX missile, or the B-1 bomber, is halted, real spending reductions will be hard to come by. There is a strong case to be made against both systems on grounds of vulnerability and obsolescence, but with important talks on arms control with the Soviets only days away it is a bad time to be sweeping gargantuan chips off the board. A deal to cut the budget deficit must be put together eventually.

THE BANK AND MR LAWSON

"CONSTRUCTIVE TENSION" is the phrase that might best describe relations between the Treasury and the Bank of England when all is well between them. The Bank has always chafed at the statutory subordination imposed on it by the post-war Labour Government; while the Treasury has always chafed at the far grander lifestyle and the measure of real autonomy enjoyed by its partner at the other end of town. At present, all is not well between them.

Relations between Governor and Prime Minister were often difficult in the early 1980s; but the arrival of Governor LEIGH PEMBERTON seemed to usher in the prospect of calmer seas ahead. For a time such expectations were fulfilled. The unhappy affair of Johnson Matthey Bankers has abruptly terminated the honeymoon. The Treasury, ill-pleased by a lack of consultation, sought ostentatiously to stand aloof when recriminations began to fly. The circulation of doubts about the re-appointment of the Deputy Governor, the mastermind behind the rescue operation, was calculated to exacerbate ill feeling. Now it looks increasingly as though the strict injunction from the Chancellor that public funds were not to be committed, though honoured in the letter, have come close to breaching in the spirit. In theory the Bank may have acted in accordance with its statutory authority in making a £100 million deposit from its own reserves to what is technically a subsidiary. In practice it seems singularly inept that this should apparently have been done without forewarning the Treasury just when the Chancellor was due to make a statement in the Commons.

This semi-public quarrel has proceeded more than far enough. Mistakes have undoubtedly been made in Treadneedle Street. But the Treasury cannot afford to see the authority of the Governor and his institution undermined (particularly when sterling is already under pressure for other reasons). Great George Street and Treadneedle Street need to get their act together. Time enough to draw the lessons when the dust has settled. The immediate priority is for the Treasury to put its weight behind the Bank to sort out an unwise entanglement.

START DEALING

MR NICHOLAS RIDLEY, having blundered without due thought or preparation on to the minefield of Stansted and Heathrow, has chosen wisely to retreat. His withdrawal, *sine die*, of his Civil Aviation Bill is a simple recognition of the inevitable. The mauling he received from Tory backbenchers yesterday was still less than it might have been, but Mr RIDLEY still signally failed to give them the reassurance they seek. Many MPs on his own side believe that he is cynically trying to force their approval of a third London airport at Stansted by the device of a Bill placing limits on traffic at Heathrow. He is thus credited, at best, with a none-too-subtle trick, at worst (by Mr JOHN WILKINSON, chairman of the Tory Aviation Committee) with prejudicing the semi-judicial decision he must take as Transport Secretary in the Staosted inquiry. Recent humiliations in Committee have drawn from him only protests, not explanations. So his Bill is now lost. This was a disaster which was avoidable.

That said, Mr RIDLEY is entitled to feel that no Government can ever win over Stansted. Successive debates across 20 years in trying to develop the airport there prove that. But it looks as if the Transport Secretary wants to have another go, given the way he has carefully boxed in his options over Heathrow. To most observers, it is less likely that the present House of Commons, dominated by 400 Tory MPs, will agree to a major airport on these green and blighted acres near Bishops Cleeve than any other Parliament since the war. Mr RIDLEY's daring is, therefore, breathtaking.

Those who will watch this spectacle in the new year will expect a political delicacy which has so far been conspicuously absent. Tory backbenchers have served ample warning that an attempt to railroad through the Stansted Inspector's plan for 15 million passengers a year will not work. But that is not to say that Stansted need continue only with its present trickle of one million passengers a year. If Mr RIDLEY were to indulge, distasteful as it might be to him, in some detailed negotiation and horse-trading with his MPs over figures closer to four or five million, he might make surprising progress.

Fruits of East End learning

It was on Christmas Eve 100 years ago that Toynbee Hall, as it was to be known, opened its doors in one of the most deprived areas of the East End of London.

While in real terms social conditions have vastly improved during the past century, the elements that foster injustice, exploitation and repression never disappear—they merely take on different shapes. The urban highways—the high rise—the glitter and tinsel of superficial affluence still conceal huge pockets of hopelessness, divided communities, crime, destitute struggle, social disorder, squalid accommodation and, yes, even poverty.

In a vivid new history of Toynbee Hall, Asa Briggs and Anne Macartney put it thus:

There are moments of stillness in the midst of uncertainty and confusion, particularly perhaps in the East End, when it seems that *plus ça change plus c'est la même chose*.

The background to the founding of Toynbee Hall—and the very special role it came to play—was in the social and religious climate of the 1880s.

There had been a stirring of conscience which developed into an outburst of socio-political fervour against the chasm which divided the "haves" and "have nots," especially in the twilight areas of our great cities. In Oxford much interest was being displayed in these matters and when the Rev. Samuel Barnett, vicar of St Jude's Church, Whitechapel, addressed a meeting in an undergraduate's room calling for people to go to the East End and help themselves and "do something," there was immediate effect.

AMONG Barnett's friends at his old university was a dedicated young historian, Arnold Toynbee, who, alas, died aged 31 in 1883. His friends, many of them influential, decided to perpetuate his name in the East End which he loved dearly, by establishing a settlement which could serve a dual purpose: helping those in need and teaching people the value of, and the opportunities for, full citizenship.

The idea was for graduates from Oxbridge to go and live, as "residents," in their midst, to help and teach—and indeed learn themselves.

Support came from Cambridge too, and powerful London backing soon included A. J. Balfour and the Duke of Westminster.

Residents and other helpers were attracted from many walks of life. Sir John Gorst, M.P. for instance, Vice-President of the Committee of the Privy Council in charge of Education, lived at Toynbee for a period, as did Sir Robert Morant, his private secretary and a subsequent educational reformer. They did so because of Toynbee's educational work. Many discussions took place at Toynbee about educational reform. "The discussions went backwards and forwards," wrote Barnett, "until

we feel we here are in the Cabinet!"

The founder had insisted that Toynbee Hall should be a secular settlement. For one thing the East End, on the edge of Dockland, had always been the first homeland for foreign settlers: the Huguenots from France, then the Jews, victims of the pogroms in Russia and Poland (and, in modern times, immigrants from rural northern Bangladesh). Nonetheless, the dominant philosophy among the founders was Christian socialism.

The growth and spread of the movement is a fascinating story.

By

JOHN PROFUMO,

chairman of Toynbee Hall

It pioneered the concepts of free legal advice, citizens' advice bureaux, the Youth Hostels Association, the Workers' Education Association, the Guild of Handicraft and the Children's Country Holiday Fund.

Toynbee Hall gradually became the inspiration for hundreds of other similar communities in many parts of the world.

In 1903 a 24-year-old sub-warden was appointed at Toynbee Hall at a salary of £200 per annum. His name was William Beveridge.

At the end of the Second World War it was Beveridge who was responsible for the blueprint of our modern social services. It was perhaps no coincidence that a one-time secretary of Toynbee Hall, Clement Attlee, became the nation's leader in 1945.

The principle that the State would establish uniformly high standards of care for everyone—the "land fit for heroes"—so tragically fought for through two world wars—ushered in a brief period of euphoria during which time it looked as if the age of dedicated voluntary social workers might be over. Not only was their amateur status called into question, the whole idea of "charity" was considered demeaning.

When Beveridge came in 1903 in many ways his motives were different from Barnett's. He was not a Christian. The fact that Toynbee was a secular establishment attracted him. He saw it as a centre "for the development of authoritative opinion on the problems of city life." He didn't stay long but the knowledge he gained and the friends he made—H. R. Tawney, H. S. Lewis, Henry Ward, Llewellyn Smith and others—played a significant part in the formation of his great concepts, and his influence certainly laid the foundation of Toynbee's second great *raison d'être*—a social think-tank-cum-workshop—which was built up by the celebrated warden J. J. Mallon, appointed in 1919.

Mallon presided over Toynbee's fortunes throughout its heyday from 1919 up to the outbreak of

the Second World War. At the jubilee in 1935 the Prime Minister, Baldwin, said this of Toynbee Hall:

It brought into our life an enlightened humanity and a new approach to the problem of correcting and ameliorating the inequalities of society. It recognised that pity was not enough and that charity was not enough; but that these things must be implemented by a new spirit of understanding and association between the classes and based upon continuous inquiry into social evils and the best means of ameliorating them... what I may call the floodlighting of the East of London... have deeply influenced the scope and character of British domestic legislation.

Since then the Welfare State has arrived, but it became clear that, with the best will in the world, the State alone cannot hope to eradicate deprivation.

There will always be certain people (ethnic minorities in particular) who are positively confused by the "system" and consequently cannot hope to share in full citizenship. It is in such areas that the voluntary sector, increasingly in co-operation with the statutory authorities, is very much alive.

There have been such changes since the last war—social, economic and technological—that the predictions and blueprints of Beveridge have now got to be rethought.

Today there is clearly a dual role for Toynbee: concern for those in distress, and social research and experiment. Which is why we look on the settlement as a "social workshop."

We are re-establishing our traditional social-educational activities and a new, closely-linked, project training young people to make them fit for jobs when their chance comes.

We plan to establish a standing conference of experts to keep studying new and vexing social problems. We still believe in remaining a residential settlement and we are certain that, with the right material, the presence of on-the-spot committed volunteers is of irreplaceable value.

GOVERNMENTS are bound increasingly to search for reductions in State spending and it seems inevitable that along the road services will be squeezed unless the private sector can play a correspondingly greater role in our social affairs.

One of Barnett's concepts was the sharing of abilities, not just one-way traffic from the privileged to the deprived. Only through active citizenship from each according to his ability did he believe society could make real impact on the misery of the poor.

The aim for the second hundred years of Toynbee Hall will be to plug gaps, build bridges, blaze trails and prevent problems turning into different versions of themselves. Instead, by urging them a step further along the road to solution, perhaps we may help to outlaw the phrase, "plus on change."

The Christmas way to send the message

A PERNICIOUS new form of propaganda on behalf of organisations lobbying for favourable treatment by the Government has been brought to my attention by MPs angry at the way the Christmas message is being commercialised.

Their postbags are being flooded with cards which seem devoid of any real Christmas message. Michael Latham, M.P. for Rutland, showed me three examples of this exploitation which arrived in his post yesterday.

One came from Tyne and Wear, backing public transport subsidies. Another was from Short Brothers in Belfast urging the R.A.F. to buy a Brazilian trainer aircraft. The third arrived from the Wine and Spirit Association and declared "No more 'sideboard' duties," please, Mr Chancellor.

Said Latham: "If somebody has a message they should put it in a letter, not on cards which are meant to be a greeting between friends and relations at Christmas."

He will be hurting them.

Chinese puzzle

MRS THATCHER received some unusual gifts from her Chinese hosts in Peking.

From Premier Zhao she received a porcelain plate with a picture of herself embossed upon it. Zhao also gave both Mrs Thatcher and Sir Geoffrey Howe a souvenir photograph of their stay—personally autographed by himself.

But what I take to be a rare flash of inimitable oriental humour, the Prime Minister was also given a set of the Encyclopaedia Britannica in Chinese with an accompanying English-Chinese dictionary.

The Pool Office seems to be excelling itself for speed in delivering Christmas. One reader in Orpington tells me he has just received a card from a friend in the West Country, post-marked December 28.

To the rescue

LORD ST OSWALD, who died on Wednesday, was captured by Anarchists in Madrid in 1936 while covering the Spanish Civil War for The Daily Telegraph, sentenced to death and hung into the nearest cell. Neither the TELEGRAPH nor fellow journalists knew what had happened to him.

For eight weeks he was kept in the cell through which prisoners passed every morning to the gallows. Rescue came only when the 1st Viscount Camrose discovered his fate and asked the Foreign Office to intervene.

The first St Oswald knew of this was when his jailer thrust a folded document into his trembling hands. He feared the worst. It was in fact a telegram—"Meet me for lun-

LONDON DAY BY DAY

Ritz Hotel, Madrid, next Tuesday—Camrose. He told an alarmed prison governor that Lord Camrose was out to be disobeyed and was promptly discharged.

Bridge between peoples

A FINAL ceremony commemorating the airborne landings at Arnhem in 1944 is performed today when a Christmas tree planted as a permanent memorial to the friendship of the people of Oosterbeek is switched on at the town hall.

Aviation Commander of the Rhine Army Brigadier David Canterbury will also unveil a plaque on behalf of the present Army Air Corps in memory of their forebears, the Glider Pilot Regiment.

The Dutch still remember the Allied soldiers' sacrifice with gratitude. Local police annually organise military marches which have raised over £250,000 to help veterans visit the war memorials.

Taking it on the chin

THE BAN on hears imposed by the Dallas-run computer company at its newly acquired British subsidiary Unilever Computer Services, has come as nothing new to the male staff members at Court's Bank in the Strand.

Court's has had a "corporate philosophy" for generations which has banned not only hears but money and which insists that all its male employees wear frock coats at work.

Yesterday John Roberts, the deputy managing director of the bank—founded in 1692 and one of Britain's oldest financial houses—said that no one could now say with certainty when the ban was first imposed. "But the apocryphal story is that Baroness Angela Burdett-Coutts, who controlled the bank during the latter half of the last century laid it down because she didn't like the look of hairy men."

Welsh wizards

A JUBILANT Sir Geoffrey Howe was celebrating both his birthday and the signing of the Hongkong settlement in the Colony yesterday. It was he, hosted an outstanding success for the Welsh mafia—the "taffia".

Sir Geoffrey explained that, apart from himself, Sir Richard Evans, our man in Peking, Sir Percy Cradock, the Foreign Office mandarin in charge of the deal, and Sir Edward Youde, the governor of Peking, all hail from the Principality.

Uncensored

LAST WEEK I highlighted the plight of our loyal readers in Saudi Arabia who, having forked out £1.15p for a copy of THE DAILY TELEGRAPH, have sometimes discovered that the local censor has obliterated advertisements

for alcohol and Israeli holidays, taking with them the much-loved crossword puzzle.

It also wondered whether my note about the censorship would escape the eagle eye of the Saudi censor and I am happy to report that yesterday I received word from Riyadh—it did.

Oh, little town...

A FEW MILES from Llandeilo in south west Wales is a peaceful hamlet in Dyfed where there is neither pub nor filling station—just a few cottages, a tiny school, one shop cum-post office and, at the top of the hill, a chapel which Claude Page illustrates in his illustration.

In mid-November this quiet spot was transformed when the lanes were jammed with cars and tele-

vision outside broadcast vans in an attempt to introduce Christmas several weeks early.

Christmas carols issued from the primary school were swelled by the voice of Sir Harry Secombe in a recording of his TV programme "Highway" which goes on on Sunday. The name of the village, though, has everything to do with such media activity—Bethlehem.

Christmas comes early...

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Barred books

THE FOLIO Society has received the following letter from a New York subscriber:

"Please cancel my membership. I'm off to prison on an income tax matter and won't have the income to afford the books. When I get out I'll rejoin. Please don't ship further books."

Come all ye faithful

A READER recently back from the Canaries reports his five-year-old son's delight in hearing a message in several languages on the hotel public address system calling people to a Sunday church service. The child looked to the ceiling in wonder and asked: "Was that the voice of God?"

PETERBOROUGH

POLICE AND THE MOTORWAYS

SIR—Apropos of motorway driving, Mr Tim Robins is right to say that there should be a separate police force to patrol motorways.

Apart from the money available for such patrols in the United States, another reason for such patrols is that there are no emergency telephones on their freeways.

In the event of a breakdown one is, by law, required to pull into the hard shoulder and to remain there until a patrol arrives: what is more you may not leave your driving seats until a patrol arrives.

Another example we may follow is that slow-moving drivers are, by law again, expected to pull into the nearest lay-by when driving on roads other than freeways or dual carriageways. If there are three or more vehicles behind.

IVAN DE SILVA
Amersham, Bucks.

Fewer accidents

SIR—With reference to the letter headed "Speed on motorways" (Dec. 15), I too must express concern over the standard of driving on the motorways, adding my own comments on the speed limit.

When, against the wish of many of us, the seat belt was made compulsory, it was a very controversial issue. However, records have proved that it has all been worthwhile.

Fatal accidents are down but, unfortunately, there are still the same number of accidents. In 1976, when there was a likelihood of there being a petrol shortage, the speed limit was reduced to 50 mph for a few months, the hospitals recorded fewer accidents and a fewer casualties—fewer accidents.

It is common sense that a car travelling at 70 mph will incur a worse and

more costly accident than a car travelling at 50 mph.

The Highway Code illustrates that the braking distance of a car travelling at 70 mph is 245 feet and at 50 mph half that distance at the faster rate would create twice as much havoc as the one travelling at the slower rate.

I repeat Mr Robins's words: "Surely it is time to stop the dangerous driver on Britain's motorways." Law enforcement must be a priority.

JOHN SKELLY
Stourpaine, Dorset

High speeds

SIR—The M25 is rather poorly engineered, badly planned and unpaved. The locals warned of the fog danger of the route and of the lack of a westward exit at Sunningdale.

I don't know where Mrs Chalker does her motorway motoring but, the many motorways I use, the fast lane is usually completely full and speeds average 80 to 95 mph.

If you leave a sensible gap the present sales representative is driving a few yards from your tail flashing and if you don't give way he will "undertake".

On a long journey this means to maintain a safe distance you have to move into the lorry lane perhaps 100 times, to the annoyance of the lorries who are doing 70 to 80 mph in a solid column. Curses.

(1) Reduce the speeds. Lorries 50 mph, cars 60 mph. No coaches or vans in fast lane.
(2) Speed limit signs to be law.
(3) Have a police cadet, either sex, driving at a steady 60 mph up a had stretch, off at an intersection and down again, day and night.

D. A. C. HUTCHISON
Westerham, Kent

Remoteness from people of local government

SIR—I share Mr T. E. Utley's view ("Commentary," Dec. 17) that local government reconstruction can in no sense be described as a "constitutional" issue. However, the parish councils to which he attributes "a place in the affections of British people" have been unknown to inner London since 1889.

It is even questionable whether the 32 boroughs set up in 1964 are any less remote from the public than the Greater London Council itself. It is probably also a fallacy to suggest that every voter knows the name of his or her Member of Parliament.

What worries those Conservatives in local government who are less than enthusiastic about the precise content of the Bill to abolish the Greater London Council is that the functions of that tier of local government are not being abolished, as it is acknowledged they cannot be.

They will be split among different successors such as boroughs, joint borough arrangements, one or more joint boards, unelected quangos and central Government departments.

Few of these are likely to be less remote from the people than the authority which they replace.

NEVILLE BEALE
Member, Greater London Council
County Hall, S.E.1

Creeping centralism

SIR—Mr T. E. Utley described the present widespread concern about the proposed abolition of upper-tier local authorities in metropolitan areas as fraudulent.

This is a travesty of the true situation and does no justice at all to the genuine concern felt throughout the country across the political spectrum, and the very real fears for the future.

Fraudulent is, perhaps, a more accurate description of the message facts on which Mr Utley postulates his argument in favour of the Government proposals.

He apparently considers the average voter a person of rather limited intelligence who will be expected to respond only to national political leaders about whom he can read in his daily newspaper and see on television. This is indeed a sad commentary on the attitudes which have led to the birth of these proposals. How little has been learned from the lessons of history about those who have been contemptuous of the individual citizen in a democracy.

However, the present legislative proposals are dressed up, they will represent a big step in the recent trend of creeping centralism, a development which Mr Utley clearly welcomes without reserve. I, for one, do not have any faith in a future in which the man from Whitehall settles everything and the distant offices of the central Government's proposals as intellectually contemptible is both insulting and arrogant.

I am sure that many will agree with me in pleading with the Government to step back and see the full implications of what they intend and, perhaps, listen to the reasoned arguments of others.

How will they look (as one day they must) from the opposition benches and what notional damage will continued centralism do to the grassroots on which our economy depends?

H. J. MEDCALF
Chelmsford, Essex.

Long distance greeting

SIR—We are five Scouts currently competing in a very enjoyable and challenging competition running from October until December, known as the "Taylor Memorial Trophy."

We are given a challenge each month which we must use our initiative and imagination to complete. For example, in October we had to camp in an unusual place so we camped on an Isle of Wight ferry; we flew to 5,600 feet for the November challenge of get a patrol as high up as possible.

As part of our December challenge of communication a Christmas message between two distant points we would like to wish all your readers, but particularly our overseas ones, a very happy Christmas.

TIM RAYNER
Chandlers Ford, Hants.

Cost effective

SIR—I find it most strange that on the one hand British Rail should spend millions on marketing initiatives to persuade people to travel by train, yet at the same time the costs of carrying trains for enthusiasts have been increased with the aim of reducing the number of such trains because of B.R.'s inability to administer such requests with reduced staffing levels.

One cannot but think that at times British Rail hardly needs marketing when it can dissuade the few friends that it might have in the world.

TONY RUSSELL
Tonbridge, Kent

Qualifications to rescue company from collapse

SIR—The Insolvency Bill, published within the last few days, includes the welcome innovation of the Administrator procedure, providing a framework under court supervision within which it will be easier to rescue companies from financial collapse.

This part of the Bill has, however, one flaw which, while serious as it stands, could easily be remedied.

With its general objective of tightening up on liquidation practice, the Bill limits activity to qualified insolvency practitioners. The Bill provides for certification as to who is a suitably qualified practitioner by the Secretary of State under rules to be established by him.

The White Paper stated that qualification would be limited to qualified accountants, practising solicitors and others already in insolvency practice.

While probably satisfactory for liquidations this is inappropriate to the Administrator procedure.

Liquidations and receiverships are concerned with realisation of assets, a skilled and specialist activity carried out under the overriding authority of statute or debenture.

Rescue work is not an easy activity and carries high risk.

The Bill should provide a more appropriate, perhaps separate, vetting system for Administrators. Since candidates will in practice be approved by the company's bankers and scrutinised by the court, pre-screening might be limited to:

(i) experience in the reconstruction of companies
(ii) possessing or having access to the legal, accounting and managerial resources necessary to carry out the duties of an Administrator.

We have worked in financial and general management, in management consultancy, and in the reconstruction of companies, having legal business and accounting qualifications between them. Because our experience has been in saving companies rather than liquidating them, we may well be ineligible under the new rules.

We do not believe that this was the initial intention of this welcome reform.

KINGSLEY MANNING, JON SLAVEN,
MICHAEL FRANKS,
London, E.C.1

Disastrous philosophy

SIR—Shedding workers at the age of 55, as suggested by the Japanese arm, Hitachi, would be a shortcut to disaster. What British industry needs is a blend of maturity and youthfulness, not simply an energetic and possibly volatile workforce.

Hitachi says older workers cause problems through sickness, slow reactions, poor eyesight and resistance to change. That may be the case in some instances, but the wealth of the nation should be based on a fully integrated workforce of maturity mixed with youthfulness.

The Hitachi philosophy would have disastrous economic repercussions. It would be almost impossible to provide security for 55-year-old high wage earners who suddenly have to hand over their money to younger people. It would also take purchasing power away from middle-aged people thus weakening the financial power of the companies who have given their jobs to younger people.

DUDLEY MAINPRIZE
Dep. Gen. Sec.,
Inst. of Industrial Managers,
Luton, Beds.

Intelligence men killed woman, 78, says Dalyell

By CHARLES LAURENCE

THE Government is to look into a claim that a 78-year-old woman who died after a burglary at her home near Shrewsbury was killed by British intelligence officers searching for documents linked to the sinking of the Argentine cruiser Belgrano.

The claim was made in the House of Commons at 4 a.m. yesterday by Mr Tam Dalyell, Labour MP for Linlithgow, who has made persistent attacks on the Government over the sinking of the Belgrano.

Mr Giles Shaw, junior Home Office minister, said the allegation would be given full consideration and a proper and I hope comprehensive reply.

Miss Hilda Murrell, a rose grower, was found dead last March in a wood six miles from her home at Haughmond Hill, north of Shrewsbury. The house, where she lived alone, had been broken into and there were signs of a struggle.

"At an inquest last month, which found that she had been 'unlawfully killed,' the coroner was told that she had been driven the six miles to the wood in her own car, then stabbed and left in the cold.

No evidence

West Mercia police are continuing inquiries into the case, said yesterday that allegations similar to those made by Mr Dalyell had already been investigated but no evidence had been found to support them.

Mr Dalyell told MPs during an all-night sitting that Miss Murrell was the aunt of Cdr Robert Green, who had been a naval intelligence officer at fleet headquarters in Norfolk at a



Miss Hilda Murrell.

had passed the signal ordering the sinking of the Belgrano during the Falklands conflict. Cdr Green thought the war "unnecessary" and had since left the Navy.

"It was thought that some of Rob Green's supposed records might be in the home of his aunt to whom he was close. I am also given to understand that—and I quite accept it—there was no premeditated intention of doing away with Miss Murrell, only a search of her house while she was out," said Mr Dalyell.

Lady of courage

He went on: "Alas, on Wednesday, March 21, she returned, unexpectedly, to change and the intruders either arrived while she was dressing or were disturbed by her.

"Being a lady of courage and spirit, often found in that generation of women, Miss Murrell fought them. They too had to fight, injured her and panicked.

"The cover-up had to begin because the searchers were members of British intelligence, I am informed."

Mr Dalyell was a campaigner against nuclear weapons and had been preparing a paper for the public inquiry into the Sizewell B power station proposals when she died. Early allegations were that her death was in some way linked to this campaign.

Mr Dalyell, however, dismissed these claims and Mr

Shaw confirmed that "no evidence whatsoever has been found to link those activities with her death."

Mr Dalyell said the police theory that Miss Murrell was the victim of a common burglar failed to tally with the "obviously sophisticated break-in" in which the telephone lines had been cut to halt outgoing calls while allowing incoming calls.

Police denied that the wires had been cut in a sophisticated way.

Mr Dalyell called for a Select Committee of Privy Counsellors to monitor the activities of the intelligence services.

He said: "I am certain there are persons in Westminster and Whitehall who know a great deal more about the violent death of Miss Hilda Murrell than they are prepared to divulge."

It is odd

Mr Shaw commented: "It is at least odd that if there was a British security element in the investigation, or indeed occasioning the crime for which the investigation had been set up, that somehow that should be continuing in this way without those involved being able to make sure that the police and security forces were apparently sharing common knowledge."

West Mercia police are no longer pursuing "political" lines of inquiry. Their spokesman said the repeated allegations were "unhelpful" as they were deflecting public interest from the "real thrust" of the inquiry, which was the search for a burglar who turned killer.

At her home in Leigh, near Shrewsbury, Dorset, last night, Cdr Green said: "I was in the Navy until the end of 1982, and I was the fleet intelligence officer at Northwood, the command headquarters there."

"During the Falklands war, I was part of the command team, but I sincerely hope the people who murdered my aunt were not looking for papers relating to the Falklands."

"She certainly had nothing, but it means that I might have been responsible for her death. I think it was me, looking for papers relating to the Falklands."

'MANIC' CLAIM

Tory riposte

Mr Edward Leigh, Conservative MP for Gainsborough and Horncastle, said during Commons Business Questions that parliamentarianism should not be "wasted" with further discussion of Mr Dalyell's claims.

He attacked the "manic and ludicrous suggestion by Tam Dalyell that members of the security services are roaming around the country bumping off ladies in rich documents relating to the Belgrano."

Mr John Biffen, leader of the House, told him: "I can promise no Government time will be available for such a debate."

£73m COACH DEAL

By Our Transport Correspondent

The Windsor-based Restair Group has won contracts for 70 coaches worth £73,500,000, including 70 for Hongkong, 40 for South Yorkshire, 16 for Hull and 12 for Africa.

SNEEZING LED TO CAR DEATH

A SUDDEN sneezing fit by a lorry driver may have led to the death of CHARLOTTE LONG, 18, an actress and daughter of Government whip Viscount Long, in a road accident, an Oxford inquest was told yesterday.

She was waiting for help on the M4 near Newbury in Berkshire when a lorry ran into the back of her Ford Escort parked on the hard shoulder after overheating.

Miss Long, of Hans Road, Knightsbridge, died from head and internal injuries in hospital in Oxford on Oct. 6, three days before her 19th birthday.

Spanish holiday

She was driving back to her mother's home at Bradford-on-Avon, Wiltshire, after a two-week holiday in Spain following recording of the B.C. television series "The Tripods."

Mr BRIAN LAUNTERS, the lorry driver, of Elmwood Road, Upton Lea, Slough, told police he was convulsed by a fit of sneezing which caused him to lose control of his five-ton vehicle. "I braked but it was too late and I hit the car," he said.

Mr NICHOLAS GARDNER, the coroner, who recorded a verdict of accidental death, said: "I noted with alarm that Miss Long had been waiting for three-quarters of an hour for assistance."

15,500 FIRES CAUSED BY ARSONISTS

By Our Business Correspondent

Arsonists were responsible for 15,500 out of the 372,000 fires fought by firemen last year, according to a Home Office report yesterday.

The total of deliberate fires was 11 per cent. higher than in 1982 and well above the 8,700 recorded in 1978. Almost 6,000 of the fires were in homes.

The overall fire total was 4 p.c. higher than the 1982 level and the highest since 1976. But the number of people who died, 905, was slightly down on the 1982 figures.

Fire Statistics, Home Office, 26, 25-26.

£31m SPENDING ON AIRPORTS

The Government gave permission yesterday for new capital projects at 11 council-controlled regional airports in England and Wales.

The projects, including a helicopter terminal at Humberside airport and a runway extension at Cardiff, means councils will be allowed to invest a total of up to £31 million in airports next year.

POLICE CHIEF TO FACE TRIBUNAL

Charges under police disciplinary regulations were served yesterday on the suspended Derbyshire Chief Constable, Mr Alf Parrish. A private, independent tribunal will sit, probably in February or March.

Mr Parrish, 54, was suspended on full pay in June after claims that he spent £28,000 on his office suite without authorisation.

Rail tunnel inferno left to burn itself out

By JOHN WILLIAMS

A PENNINE hillside belched like a miniature Vesuvius with flames and dense smoke yesterday after a goods train was derailed in a tunnel and fuel tankers exploded.

Firemen were forced out of the tunnel and the blaze will rage on until the 680 tons of fuel oil are burned out.

That could take until after Christmas. And it may be weeks before the two-mile long Summit tunnel under the moors between Littleborough and Todmorden on the Lancashire-Yorkshire border is reopened.

Teams of firemen from Greater Manchester and Yorkshire fighting the outbreak were forced to flee a mile and a half along the tunnel as a giant fireball swept towards them.

After the derailment the crew of the train—Mr Stanley Marshall, the driver, of Eccles, and Mr David Broadbent, a guard, of Rawtenstall, together with the Stanley Smalley, a railway inspector—managed to run through the darkness to the Manchester side to stop other trains.

Valves blew

Accompanied by firemen, Mr Marshall went back into the tunnel and managed to drive away with three tankers still on the line.

Firemen made six of the remaining 10 safe, but when they reached the seventh its pressure valves blew.

As the tanker was engulfed in flames, Station Officer Ralph Mallinson, of Halifax, blew the evacuation whistle.

"We ran as fast as we could. Our men just got out in time," he said.

A fire brigade spokesman said firemen with breathing apparatus had later re-entered the tunnel and found three tankers burning fiercely.

"It was decided there was no point in risking lives. With the amount of fuel involved, if it all exploded we could have a fireball coming out of either end of the tunnel."

Hundreds evacuated

Thousands of gallons of high expansible foam were poured down ventilation shafts into the tunnel in an effort to limit the blaze.

As tongues of flame lanced through the shafts and with ambulances standing by in communities below the hillside, police evacuated several hundred people from the area because it was feared fumes seeping from underground could also ignite.

Police issued warnings that lit matches and cigarette ends should not be thrown away in the street. Fuel has seeped into a local river and streams and could be smelled four miles away in Rochdale.

At Barnes Meadows, an estate only half-a-mile from the accident, 200 children were told to leave their desks and taken to a community centre at Littleborough.

CARAVAN BLAZE

Gipsy Edward Nutcranny, 57, was in hospital with serious burns last night after his niece Maria Williams, 17, filled a kettle with petrol from a container she believed held water, and their caravan caught fire on a site at Belle Vue, Doncaster, when she put the kettle on the stove.

Long time for luck of a 3d to work

By J. D. HOLDSWORTH in Sydney

A FORMER English woman, unable to speak for 12 years, has regained her voice after coughing up a silver threepenny bit.

Marie Hefferman, now 25, unknowingly swallowed the 1959 coin planted for luck with others in the family Christmas cake, when she was 13. She soon developed laryngitis and six weeks later lost her voice.

Despite extensive tests doctors were mystified. They blamed a virus and believed her voice could return as suddenly as it had disappeared.

Mario Hefferman, now 25, was forced to leave and spent four years unemployed before becoming a typist.

Now married and living in Canberra she was at work eight weeks ago when her throat began to get sore. During a coughing bout she brought up a little black lump which the Royal Canberra Hospital found was not human tissue but the unsuspected coin.

It had been lodged between her vocal cords, preventing them from vibrating, and was undetected by X-rays.

Her parents, Mr and Mrs Dan Orr, who migrated to Australia in 1972, got the shot of their lives when Marie rang them for the first time.

MORTAR AWARD FOR BRITAIN

By Our Defence Correspondent

British persistence has paid off with the award of an American Army order worth \$2.1 million for Britain's 81mm mortar. The contract is for an initial batch of mortars, modified for American use, and several thousand bombs.

As the total American requirement is for several thousand mortars and some two million bombs, there are hopes that this initial order for the Royal Ordnance factories at Nottingham and Chiswick, Wales, will be the forerunner of future sales adding up to several hundred million pounds.

FOREIGN CAR PROFITS RISE

By Our Commercial Correspondent

A big increase in profits by distributors of foreign vehicles is shown in a survey by ICC Business Ratios. Nissan topped the list with a return on capital of nearly 45 per cent, and a profit margin of well over 15 per cent for 1982-83.

Profit margins for other leaders were MCL group at 11.2 per cent; Porsche Cars 9.3 per cent; Volvo Concessionaires 8.9 per cent; Toyota (GB) 7.1 per cent; BMW (GB) 6 per cent; Heron Suzuki (GB) 5.5 per cent; Mercedes Benz (GB) 5.4 per cent; and DAF trucks 4.7 per cent.

Olympic refunds in prospect as profits soar

By IAN BRODIE in Los Angeles

PROFITS from the Los Angeles Olympics have taken a spectacular new leap. They have now reached \$215 million (£185 million) up from earlier estimates, and may eventually climb to \$250 million (£215 million).

The surplus has become so enormous that the organising committee has tentatively agreed to reimburse competing nations for their housing costs at the three Olympic villages.

This payback will amount to nearly \$7 million (£6 million) and could benefit the British Olympic Association by about \$300,000 (£256,000).

The decision was taken by a majority of the Los Angeles Olympics Organising Committee over the objections of some members. It still needs to be approved by a reluctant U.S. Olympic Committee at its executive board meeting in February.

Profits from the private-enterprise games will finance amateur sport in America for years to come, with 40 per cent staying in Southern California and 60 per cent going to the U.S. Olympic Committee.

The Games President, Mr Peter Ueberroth, pleaded with the organising committee to agree to pay the housing costs of overseas contestants before award of the enlarged profit reaches foreign Olympic officials who are already critical of Los Angeles for making so much money.

Boycott effect

He stressed that the success of the Games had resulted from the willingness of participating countries to ignore the Soviet boycott and to increase the size of their teams to compensate for it.

Mr Ueberroth was questioned about the size of the surplus which he had claimed, even during the games, as being unlikely to exceed earlier projections of \$150 million.

He challenged anyone to find any "deceit" in the figures supplied by the games' auditors.

The financial bonanza had come from prudent budgeting and a lot of luck, said Games General Manager Mr Harry Usher, who also declared that there was no "hidden design."

The profit has increased by \$85 million since September, partly because of overestimating of expenses by the organising committee and outside contractors.

The figure is also growing from interest of \$2 million a month, continuing sales of Olympic coins and late royalties from products bearing the Olympic symbol.

It is by far the biggest profit made by any Olympics which normally lose money. Montreal is still paying off its billion-dollar debts from 1976.

JAPANESE CARRIERS

By Our Shipping Correspondent
Lyle Shipping has taken delivery of two new 42,000-ton bulk carriers from Mitsui, of Japan, under a 12-year leasing deal with British financiers.

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You've never experienced a Business Class like ours. The sum total of the best that Business Class has to offer. Widely spaced seats plus a first class cuisine. Silver service plus free champagne. Priority check-in plus a 30 kg luggage allowance. Plus a host of other features. It all adds up to the best deal in 'business' travel. But don't take our word for it. Check it out for yourself. AIRLANKA



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INVESTMENT & BUSINESS

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Kit McMahon reappointed

IT WAS FORMALLY announced yesterday that the Queen has approved the reappointment of Christopher (Kit) McMahon as Deputy Governor of the Bank of England for a further term of five years from March 1.

Anthony Loeblin and David Walker have been reappointed directors for a period of four years. Frederick Corby and Robert Haslam have been appointed directors of the Bank in place of Sir Robert Clark and Sir David Steel whose terms of office expire on Feb. 28.

Question—P16

Grand Met up

SALES at Grand Metropolitan exceeded £50m for the first time in the year to September 30 and pre-tax profits increased from £23.5m to £24.5m.

Question—P16

Distiller's tot

FIRST HALF profits to September 30 from The Distillers Company have increased from £67.5m to £68.5m. That takes in about £2m of exchange gains but the company reports little or no whisky volume growth.

Question—P16

Charter stake

THERE HAVE BEEN further share shufflings within the Anglo American empire with Charter Consolidated yesterday announcing that Minicor had increased its Charter holding from 35.1 p.c. to 36 p.c.

Collier loss

THE FORMER John Collier menagerie, now known as Collier Industries, has announced a £7.5m management buyout from Hanson Trust in October 1985, made a pre-tax loss, much as forecast, of £10.6m in the nine months to the end of June on sales of £28.9m.

U.S. groups on SE

ANOTHER two United States concerns have obtained a listing on the London Stock Exchange. They are American Cyanamid, a biotechnology and chemical company with a market capitalisation of \$2.5 bn with the listing arranged by Morgan Grenfell with Cazenove as brokers, and Iterum, Incorporated, a diversified chemical group with a market capitalisation of \$1.75 bn. Morgan Grenfell are advisers and W. Greenwell the brokers to this listing.

WORLD MARKETS

AMSTERDAM	180.70	-1.60
BROOKLYN	157.24	-0.50
FRANKFURT	1,091.10	+1.60
HONG KONG	1,184.42	+11.71
NEW YORK	1209.29	-4.75
PARIS	182.50	+0.90
SYDNEY	717.70	-0.40
TOKYO	111,514.15	-44.23
ZURICH	378.50	-0.30

U.S. RATES

Federal funds	7.85-7.95
1-year bonds	11.40-11.50
3-month bonds	11.40-11.50

U.S. COMMODITIES

Coffee	150.00
Cocoa	150.00
Gold	150.00
Oil	150.00
Wheat	150.00

FT—ACTUARIES—INDICES

Industrial Group	600.89
500	637.49
All-share	582.21

OECD expects recovery to last into 1986

By FRANCES WILLIAMS in Paris

OVERALL prospects for output and inflation in the industrial countries are as good as—or better than—at any time since the watershed year of 1973, when the world was hit by the first oil crisis. The Paris-based Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development concludes in its December economic outlook, published yesterday.

The OECD, the 24-member club of rich nations foresees continuing economic recovery over the next 18 months, though at a slower pace, accompanied by stable inflation.

But the outlook for employment, notably in Europe, remains bleak. Sluggish growth of activity in Europe is expected to create new jobs.

Unemployment, already at its highest levels for half a century, is forecast to rise by a million to nearly 20 million by mid-1986, representing about 11.75 p.c. of the workforce. Of these perhaps nine million will be under 25.

The OECD economists expect the industrial world as a whole to grow by 3 p.c. next year, slowing fractionally to 2.75 p.c. in early 1986, then nearly 5 p.c. this year. The slowdown is almost entirely accounted for by the moderation of United States expansion from nearly 7 p.c. this year to an annual 5 p.c. over the next 18 months.

Japan is likely to take over as the frontrunner in 1985 with a p.c. growth while Europe lags far behind with 2.5 p.c. this year, fractionally higher than this year.

Britain is expected to perform rather better than the European average next year, though this is partly because of the rebound from the miners' strike. The OECD predicts 5 p.c. growth for 1985 after 2 p.c. this year, slightly less than the Treasury

forecast, with inflation declining gently from around 5 p.c. in the second half of 1984 to 4.5 p.c. in the first half of 1985.

A forecast of modest current account deficit on the balance of payments over the next 18 months contrasts, however, with Government predictions of a substantial surplus.

Average growth of about 2.5 p.c. a year in the two years to mid-1986 would mark some slowing from the 3.2 p.c. recorded in 1983, but the recovery—by then five years old—would still have lasted longer than any previous postwar expansion.

However, while the rise in unemployment might be halted or significantly reduced can be expected, the outlook says. In addition, the OECD has a warning for Britain on wages. It says high unemployment has had no appreciable impact on the increase in earnings, still running far ahead of prices.

With the risk that continued recovery may be accompanied by pressure for higher pay. This may be the result of increasing labour market segmentation, as the unemployed become less employable and cease to restrain the wage claims of those in work, the OECD suggests.

But it warns that if big pay rises, graded on highly profitable sectors of industry are copied elsewhere this will lead to higher inflation and job losses.

The OECD takes a relatively optimistic line on the prospects for a "soft landing" of the American economy and plays down the disruptive impact of a sharp decline in the dollar.

The effects on Europe of 20 p.c. fall in the dollar concentrated in the first half of 1985 would be quite small, it estimates, with economic output slightly less—because exports contract—and prices rather lower than before.

Smith in partnership with Scott Goff

By BARBARA CONWAY

THE PACE of change within the Stock Exchange quickened yesterday with two more thin announcements: changes in ownership, one of them involving a major switch in existing rules.

It involves the separation of the Stock Exchange council (in which the Smiths and Goffs are 5 p.c. limited partners in brokers Scott Goff Layton).

The arrangement, which is part of an intended £3.8 million deal for an eventual complete merger between the two firms, is the first time a jobber has been permitted to take a direct interest in a broker.

In a more conventional move by recent standards Williams de la Hill, one of the largest brokers, has remained uncommitted to a "marriage" up to yesterday, having agreed a deal with Banque Bruxelles Lambert which will lead to the Brussels-based bank's group holding an eventual 66 p.c. of the broking firm.

Initially Banque Bruxelles is taking the maximum permitted interest of 29.9 p.c. in Williams de Broe, for an undisclosed sum. The second part of the deal will be on deferred terms to encourage Williams partners to stay with the business.

China Clays jumps 37.2pc

By PETER RICHARDS

ENGLISH China Clays yesterday announced a 37.2 p.c. advance in 1983-84 pre-tax profits from £46.5 million to a record £63.8 million and the purchase of £24 million of new shares.

The deal, signed at 5.30 a.m. yesterday morning brings into the group a Swindon-based private company, making and selling high quality—and good margin—concrete products from its own aggregates source.

Bradley, which is also a private housing and commercial property developer, finished the 12 months to end-March with net assets of £27.1 million and pre-tax profits of £4 million and has gone on to £3 million to the half-year to September.

The deal brings ECC's spending on acquisitions since end-September, 1983 to £74.8 million with the earlier purchases contributing around £2.5 million to the 1983-84 profits.

This, plus the normal capital spending, working capital needs and environmental outlay did not hit the balance sheet for the deal, at end-September will be £2 million down at £3 million.

ECC remains expansion-minded. It is well aware of the research and development expertise it can bring to acquisitions from its clays side which has enabled it to take on competition located "just outside the ramparts of the markets all round the world" from Devon and Cornwall.

These two facts, plus restoration of ratios, could imply a rights issue: the last was for £15.6 million announced at the 1977 annual meeting.

Meantime holders get a 6p final on April 9 to make 8.6p (8.75p) from earnings of 21.6p (21.75p). The shares rose 2p to 258p.

Inflation check aids Wall St

By JAMES SRODES in Washington

A SURPRISINGLY good inflation report, brighter than the United States economic outlook and raised hopes on Wall Street yesterday that the Federal Reserve will be able to ease credit policy without fear.

The Dow finally ended 4.75 down at 1205.28.

The Labour Department said that consumer prices increased only 0.2 p.c. in November, or a 2.7 p.c. annual rate. The November price movement was held in check due to a moderation in service industry cost increases economists found particularly encouraging.

Price jumps in the service industry had been a trouble spot in an inflation picture that was otherwise virtually flat. In October and September consumer prices, the main inflation

gauge, rose 0.4 p.c. largely because of boosts in service industry costs. For the past year, the inflation measure has risen 3.5 p.c.

The inflation report came on the heels of a dash statement released earlier in the week that showed the American economy is expanding at a 2.8 p.c. rate, not as high as economists would like but better than the third quarter crawl of 1.6 p.c.

Investors and economists believe the low inflation rate gives the Federal Reserve more room to manoeuvre with a stimulative effort that could help push the economy onto a 4 p.c. growth path.

The anticipation received some support yesterday when the central bank aggressively entered the credit markets with a large system repurchase.

The Fed, which met for a short-term policy making session earlier this week, has been actively injecting cash into United States markets all week.

On Wall Street, investors remained cautious and most traders kept an eye open for new developments in the oil markets. Oil shares have been under pressure for the past two days while investors responded to the threat of a price war.

Sterling closed in New York at \$1.1645 against \$1.1755.

Mexico's finance minister, Silva Herzog, said his country will not be able to make a \$1 billion payment on its foreign debt, as previously agreed. Mr. Herzog said Mexico will pay \$250 million of the \$1 billion on Jan. 3 and that the rest will be repaid at a later date.

AS the pound received another battering on foreign exchange markets yesterday, falling to new lows against both the dollar and a basket of major currencies, the Bank of England made it clear that it sees no reason to push up domestic interest rates either to protect sterling or as an instrument of monetary policy.

The main thrust of the Bank's QUARTERLY BULLETIN, published yesterday, is to confirm the importance of lower interest rates in the Government's economic strategy. Virtually no mention is made of the role of sterling in the economy, except to point out that the falling value of the pound has pushed up the cost of raw materials and fuel purchased by industry.

The Bank admits to being less optimistic than the Treasury on the underlying performance of the economy. Its economists take the view that the growth of output could slow from around 3 p.c. to 2 p.c. if special factors like the house-back from the coal strike are ignored.

The economic recovery is poised no less delicately at home than overseas, says the Bank.

The Bank attributes the "sluggishness" of the domestic economy to the fact that exports have grown less fast than imports and puts some of the blame on rising unit labour costs in Britain. The Bank admits, however, that the falling exchange rate has gone some way towards neutralising the rise in relative costs at home.

For the future, the main prescription from Threadneedle Street is a combination of moderation in earnings growth and lower interest rates.

The Bank is adamant that the surge in monetary aggregates in November is likely to have been at least in part the result of the British Telecom flotation, with investors accumulating surplus bank deposits ahead of the issue.

For once, the fall in sterling is not being treated as a crucial link with Reardon Smith of Cardiff in a joint venture, is seeing its ships arrested in Taiwan, France, Kenya and America has put a liquidator into the State-owned business.

The future of Grand Marine Holdings, former shipping arm of

Salinvest, Sweden's biggest shipowner, filed for bankruptcy this week. Irish Shipping, which has a crucial link with Reardon Smith of Cardiff in a joint venture, is seeing its ships arrested in Taiwan, France, Kenya and America has put a liquidator into the State-owned business.

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CITY COMMENT

Bank prescribes lower interest rates medicine

one stage yesterday, the pound touched \$1.1630 in Far Eastern markets before recovering to close at \$1.1685, for a fall of nearly three-quarters of a cent.

In terms of the basket of international currencies, the pound fell from 73.3 to 73.0, the equivalent of a cut in its international value of 1.2 p.c. since the beginning of the week.

In the absence of any official policy towards the exchange rate, the authorities now seem to be pinning all their hopes on a spontaneous decline in the value of the dollar of between 5 p.c. and 10 p.c. next year. In support of this hope, the Bank argues that the fact that real interest rates are higher in America than elsewhere is in itself a signal that markets expect the dollar to fall.

Or does it?

LIQUIDATORS are moving in on some of the world's big shipowners. Meanwhile in London, Mr. Lawson, Chancellor of the Exchequer, has been told by the industry: "It is for you to decide whether the Merchant Navy is to die."

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That sinking feeling

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COMPANIES

BTR subsidiary
in £64m

Australian deal

THE 67 p.c.-owned Australian subsidiary of BTR is spending £590 million (£54 million) buying the Nylx Corporation from A CI International.

Nylx makes and sells a wide range of plastic products for the automotive, construction, medical and consumer-based industries ranging from moulded door panels to garden accessories.

BTR is paying £560 million in cash and taking on an £530 million loan.

Sales at Nylx were £234 million and pre-interest profits were £65 million in the year to March, and "substantial progress" is looked for in the current year.

BTR chairman Sir Owen

Green says Nylx has a dominant share of its market but BTR's managers should be able to boost the company's profitability. BTR's total-Australian turnover will rise to £400 million as a result.

The deal needs the approval of Australia's Foreign Investment Review Board. Sir Owen says he does not expect any major problem, although the FIRB has been looking for foreign investors to cut their stakes to minority levels in time.

Aspinall Holdings

RELOCATION and start-up costs of the location in gaming licence add a first time interest payment on the loan stock have meant that full year pre-tax profits from Aspinall Holdings are down from £15.1m to £11.0m on turnover of £19.5m (£19.8m). The "drop" in the value of gaming chips purchased, rose from £75.6m to £96m. Earnings were 12.8p and there is a single final dividend of 3p (nil) on Feb. 18.

Atlantic Resources

THOUGH Atlantic Resources' investment income jumped from £185,000 to £187,000 in the half-year, an £18,250,000 increase to £187,000 in deferred exploration costs, and higher tax of £18,250,000 against £18,250,000, leave net losses up from £18,250,000 to £18,250,000.

Considerable cash resources are still available, meanwhile, as a result of last year's £18.1m placing.

Board is confident that information derived from its recent exploration activities will yield substantial rewards before long.

Berisfords

OPENING half turnover at Berisfords slipped from £10m to £9.87m, principally in trimmings as a result of difficulties in the furniture and home furnishings industries.

Continuing reallocation of production, however, has lifted pre-tax profits from £248,000 to £315,000—and it appears that

"second half profits will exceed these."

The interim dividend, meanwhile, goes up from 1.4p to 1.55p, payable March 1.

William Leech

RICHARD ADAMSON, former chairman of William Leech who was replaced in September following "irreconcilable differences" with other executive directors relating to management style and philosophy, has received £232,000 compensation for loss of office.

This, together with £280,000 costs in connection with the £1.5m bonus bid, are debited as an extraordinary item in the group's latest preliminary results.

These show full-year pre-tax profits doubled from £1.1m to £2.2m.

Earnings are 9.8p (5.5p) and a 2.5p final dividend on Feb. 22 lifts the total from 2.5p to 4p. The group looks forward with confidence to a full year of continuing progress.

M & G Group

M & G Group has increased pre-tax profits from £5.01m to £7.1m in what the company describes as "another good year for sales of the group's products and increased revenue from annual management charges."

Earnings emerge at 50.3p against 40.5p, and a 13p final dividend on Jan. 31 makes a 25p (20p) total.

Net assets per share have risen from 127.2p to 127.7p. Trading since the year-end has continued well and is in line with forecasts.

Minet Holdings

MINET HOLDINGS reports a period of good underlying growth in the last half, for the nine months to Sept. 30, with the pre-tax figure ahead from £16.1m to £17.7m. Further provision for irrecoverable debts was necessary in the brewing group, which added £2.2m to expenses. Also, the general trend in Lloyd's Syndicate results has been increased costs in running the Richard Berkeitt Underwriting Agency, reflected in the half-year figures, resulting in a reduction in £800,000 from this sector.

IN BRIEF

Superfund Stores: Nine months p.t. profit £9.23m (£1.97m). T.O. £91.3m (£72.3m). Revenue: First half p.t. profit £70,000 (£295,000). T.O. £15.7m (£12.8m). Eps 1.51p (2.07p). Interim dividend 0.475p (0.6p) payable Feb. 7. Opening dividend of second half in line with internal budgets.

TR Trustee Corporation: First half p.t. revenue £2.8m (£2.4m). Total revenue £3.48m (£2.98m). Eps 2.06p (1.81p). Nav. after deducting prior charges at par, £6.1p (14.0p). Interim dividend 1.2p (same) payable Feb. 1.

Forminster: First half p.t. profit £611,000 (£604,000). T.O. £2.2m (£2.0m). Eps 6.71p (5.95p). Interim dividend 2.05p (same) payable Feb. 18.

Sterling Group: First half p.t. profit £829,000 (£894,000). T.O. £9.31m (£8.8m). Eps 3.12p (2.28p) adjusted. Int. dividend 0.4p (0.28p) adjusted payable March 20.

Sheafbank Property Trust: First half p.t. profit £215 (£2,700). Gross rental income £27,200 (£15,200). No interim dividend (same).

Colson's Peak Together with the holders of the minority interest, have sold New Era Holdings to Imperial Foods for £4.1m cash and net £1.1m as inadvertently stated here yesterday.

BIDS AND DEALS

Holders support

Dee stores bid

DEE Corporation shareholders yesterday approved their company's £180 million takeover bid for International Stores from B.A.T. Industries—but not without a fight.

M & G publicly opposed the move at the meeting. It is not against the deal in principle, but opposes the method of its financing when a record-breaking vendor placing of Dee Corporation shares was carried out on the day of the announcement.

The stock went to 150 City institutions leaving private investors no chance of maintaining their percentage holdings in the substantially enlarged equity.

Troubleshooter

at Xyllyx helm

MANAGING director of Xyllyx has left the company and sold all his shares, and the two other executive directors have stepped down from the board to leave it clear for corporate troubleshooter Jim O'Hara who will now be running the company.

Xyllyx came to the unlisted securities market in February with the promise of several large orders in the office for its computer communications equipment. Not one of these big orders has yet materialised though all but one are still in negotiation.

Reporting its first half to end-September the company showed a pre-tax loss of £177,469 on turnover of £57,246 compared with a loss of £177,469 on turnover of £26,467 for the ten-month period to end March. There is to be no dividend.

Imre Lake, managing director, left the company "due to differences over management philosophy" and has sold his stake for 18p a share.

As the other two executive directors, John Barton and Mr. P. Kirby, are technologists, the company called in a specialist company, Tacitus, which has taken 29.9 p.c. of the equity from Mr. Lake and some of Mr. Barton's holding, and installed Mr. O'Hara.

The rest of the shares, representing 26.3 p.c., were bought by Frisk Foundation of Vaduz, which is controlled by a leading confidential industrialist.

In addition to Mr. O'Hara there are only two non-executives on the board, and yesterday they said "the company's products still have the potential to generate significant profit. The shares fell 8p to 15p."

THE QUESTOR COLUMN

Smoke in Grand Met's eyes



Stanley Grinstead, chairman of Grand Metropolitan... higher profits, higher dividend.

CIGARETTES can seriously damage your health—and also your pocket, if you happen to be a shareholder in Grand Metropolitan.

Shares of Grand Metropolitan, which have under-performed the market by around 25 p.c. since mid-year, took seriously a warning with the preliminary figures that the United States cigarette operation is operating at nominal level of profitability and collapsed 25p to 303p yesterday.

By themselves, Grand Metropolitan's results for the year to Sept. 30 would have been judged satisfactory if not exciting. Pre-tax profits increased from £295 million to £334 million, carrying stated earnings up from 21.8p to 32.4p.

Brewing was just ahead, consumer services felt the chill of volume and margin pressures as the Middle East market for major construction site contracts fell away, and the foods business was halved by the pressure on cheese margins.

But to the United States the consumer products business saw profits surge from £30.4 million to £122 million—which about 40 p.c. was earned from the hitherto phenomenally successful Liggett Cigarette.

Because of price competition from the big branded competitors, Liggett's cigarette operation will do little better than break-even this year—and the proposed management buy-out for \$325 million is stuck on ice.

That hole in profits is going to take a lot of retiling in the current year. The casino business, which also took a pounding from stiffer competition, should hold its own. Brewing is not looking at a downturn and the hotels business develops well. There may even be some revival in cheesemaking margins.

But even given a fair wind in all its other activities, Grand Metropolitan is unlikely to achieve more than a minimal profits increase this year in per-

Trading profit was hit by the dock strike and around £8 million trading profits have appeared since then, but even then the second half. But even then the company does not anticipate more than a "moderate" improvement in full year pre-tax profits, which is expected to translate into a "very modest" increase at the earnings level after a steep jump in the tax charge from 55 to 45 p.c.

Scotch whisky is losing the alcoholic drinks fashion battle. Distillers' products are doing better than most in several key markets, but demand has noticeably weakened in such areas as Japan, South America and the Middle East.

On the home market, too, sales of whisky are suffering from intense competition and flat demand. Volume is inevitably weakening.

Gin sales have strengthened overall, particularly in the United States. Tanqueray is continuing to grow, but whisky accounts for at least four-fifths of the distilling companies' sales.

Somerset, which has a distinct second half bias, should make a much more substantial pre-tax contribution in the second six months and, given a further boost from exchange rates, full year profits should emerge at around £235 million against £192 million to give virtually unchanged earnings per share of 35p.

A prospective earnings multiple of 8.3 times at 28p is low enough to encourage holding on. But the market will soon require to see further sensible drink-related diversifications like Somerset, just to confirm that the sleeping giant really is beginning to wake up.

BET gets it together

THE hits and pieces that go to make up British Electric Traction are coming together very nicely, thank you, Argus Press

led the publishing division from £1.9 million pre-tax to £3.5 million. Transport, industrial services, and the group net came—£37.2 million for the six months to Sept. 30 against £31.8 million—was generally in line with expectations.

With further benefits from its recent restructuring to come and despite the not unexpected setback within leisure and electronics, the view of the shares is positive, though down 5p yesterday at 303p.

The outcome of BET's bid for Initial will be known next month, further publishing acquisitions in the United States are afoot and after taking a stake in a Hongkong bus company with a route into mainland China a bus ride to Peking may not be that far off.

The disposals and acquisitions have largely matched each other, so gearing should be hardly changed. Further balance sheet date. Further acquisitions before the year is out are probable.

There will be a £14 million write-off to be taken below the profits line, at year-end in the wake of the sale of Rediffusion Computers. All United Kingdom cable interests are also to be sold, but by the interim stage pre-tax margins on a reduced turnover were up and the interim dividend rises faster than the pace of half-time profits.

In the leisure division industrial action at Thames TV cost BET £1.6 million, and the sale of its 51 p.c. stake in Wembley Stadium knocked the division from £2.1 million to a mere £132,000 (£10 million in the full year ended March).

Electronics is also in for a poor second half, but there are enough stronger areas within the group to put BET on the course for year-end pre-tax profits of £102 million against £85.7 million previously.

The prospective price-earnings ratio is 9.6 and buying is recommended.

Distillers

Unaudited report of the Group results for the half year ended 30th September 1984

The Board has today declared an interim dividend for the year ending 31st March 1985 at the rate of 4.5p per share (last year 4.5p) absorbing £16.3m. The dividend is payable on 22nd February 1985 to shareholders on the register at 18th January 1985.

Results based on historical cost	1984	1983
TURNOVER (note 2)	£m 554.5	£m 493.0
TRADING PROFIT	79.5	64.2
Share of profit (loss) of related company	3	(2.0)
Income from investments	5.6	4.7
Interest (note 3)	(7.1)	1.0
Surplus on realisation of investments	2.2	—
PROFIT ON ORDINARY ACTIVITIES BEFORE TAXATION	80.5	67.9
Taxation (note 4)	(35.3)	(23.6)
PROFIT ON ORDINARY ACTIVITIES AFTER TAXATION	45.2	44.3
Extraordinary items (note 5)	(4.4)	(1.4)
PROFIT FOR THE PERIOD	40.8	42.9
EARNINGS PER SHARE	12.45p	12.20p

Notes

1. Comparative figures

The figures for 1983 have been restated to reflect the treatment of rationalisation, redundancy and closure costs adopted in the accounts for the year ended 31st March 1984.

2. Turnover

	£m	£m
Sales excluding duty—United Kingdom	125.5	120.1
—Other markets	274.9	233.4
Duty	154.1	139.5
	554.5	493.0

3. Interest

	£m	£m
Interest payable	(14.7)	(5.6)
Interest earned on liquid funds	7.6	6.6
	(7.1)	1.0

4. Taxation

UK corporation tax has been calculated at 45%. The charge for the comparable period last year was reduced by £8.5 million on account of stock relief.

5. Extraordinary items

	£m	£m
Rationalisation, redundancy and closure costs less attributable taxation	(8.3)	(3.0)
	3.9	1.6
	(4.4)	(1.4)

Current cost accounting information

	£m	£m
Trading profit per historical cost accounts	79.5	64.2
Depreciation adjustment	(16.1)	(17.0)
Cost of sales adjustment	(16.2)	(15.5)
Monetary working capital adjustment	(1.6)	(1.5)

CURRENT COST OPERATING PROFIT

	£m	£m
Share of loss of related company	(1.2)	(4.2)
Income from investments	5.6	4.7
Interest	(7.1)	1.0

CURRENT COST PROFIT BEFORE TAXATION

	£m	£m
Taxation	(35.3)	(23.6)

Current cost profit after taxation

	£m	£m
Gearing adjustment	3.7	8.1

CURRENT COST PROFIT (BEFORE EXTRAORDINARY ITEMS) ATTRIBUTABLE TO SHAREHOLDERS

	£m	£m
	11.3	8.9

CURRENT COST EARNINGS PER SHARE

	£m	£m
	3.11p	2.45p

Review of Trading

Although industrial action in the UK caused some orders which would have been despatched in September to be held back until after the end of the period, Group exports of Scotch whisky matched the volume recorded for the corresponding period last year and exports of gin achieved a marginal increase. The volume of sales in the home market fell short of last year's level.

The increase in trading profit as against the 1983 figure reflects the inclusion of £10 million from the US company Somerset Importers Ltd. which we acquired in May and also some £8 million attributable to the higher exchange value of the dollar currency in which we invoice our exports to the US of whiskies bottled in Scotland and Tanqueray gin. Trading profit of more than £8 million relating to the export shipments delayed by industrial action has been postponed to the second half of the year.

Our carbon dioxide interests achieved a modest improvement in trading profit but the contribution from our food group was substantially lower.

The enormous increase in the taxation charge compared with last year is due to the abrupt withdrawal of stock relief. The consequences of the denial of any transitional relief in respect of stocks of maturing Scotch whisky were described in the Chairman's statement in our 1984 annual report.

Outlook

Our leading brands in the United States—Dewar's and Johnnie Walker—continue to show satisfactory strength, but there has been a further weakening in demand for Scotch whisky in Venezuela, Japan and the Middle East in the last few months and we now consider it unlikely that the volume of our total exports of Scotch whisky will quite reach last year's level.

In the home market in the face of intense competition and flat consumer demand, we do not now anticipate achieving last year's sales volume.

The strong performance of Tanqueray gin in the US is continuing and world-wide exports of our brands of gin are showing a satisfactory increase over last year.

The benefits of rationalisation measures recently taken, together with the continuing strength of the dollar, the contribution from Somerset Importers and the greatly improved performance of United Glass, strengthen our view that pre-tax profits for the full year will show at least a moderate improvement over 1983/84.

The Distillers Company plc

This advertisement is issued in compliance with the requirements of the Council of The Stock Exchange.



American Cyanamid Company

(Incorporated with limited liability in the State of Maine in the United States of America)

Authorised

100,000,000

Shares of Common Stock of US\$5.00 par value

Issued and reserved

for issue at

16th November, 1984

52,708,149

*Including 3,600,676 shares reserved for issue

The Council of The Stock Exchange has admitted to the Official List all the 52,708,149 Shares of Common Stock of American Cyanamid Company issued and reserved for issue.

American Cyanamid Company is a research based bio technology and chemical company which, together with its subsidiaries, develops proprietary agricultural, chemical, consumer and medical products and manufactures and markets them throughout the world.

Particulars relating to American Cyanamid Company are available in the Extel Statistical Service and copies of such particulars may be obtained during usual business hours on any weekday (Saturdays and public holidays excepted) up to and including 4th January, 1985 from:

Morgan Grenfell & Co. Limited

23 Great Winchester Street

London EC2P 2AX

21st December, 1984

Cazenove & Co.

12 Tokenhouse Yard

London EC2R 7AN

This advertisement is issued in compliance with the requirements of the Council of The Stock Exchange. It does not constitute an invitation to the public to subscribe for or purchase any shares.



Hercules Incorporated

Incorporated with limited liability under the laws of the State of Delaware, United States of America

Authorised

75,000,000

Shares of Common Stock of no par value

Issued and reserved

for future issue at

11th December, 1984

60,218,233

Hercules Incorporated is a major international chemical producer headquartered in Wilmington, Delaware with manufacturing facilities in fifteen countries. The Corporation operates in the following industry segments: Specialty Chemicals, Including Organics and Water-Soluble Products; Engineered and Fabricated Products; Aerospace; and Other Products. In 1983 net sales totalled US\$ 2,628,954,000 and net income was US\$ 174,222,000. Total assets at 31st December, 1983 were US\$ 2,175,173,000.

The Council of The Stock Exchange has admitted to the Official List all the 60,218,233 shares of Common Stock of no par value which have been issued and reserved for future issue.

Particulars relating to Hercules Incorporated are available in the Extel Statistical Service and copies of such particulars may be obtained during usual business hours on any weekday (Saturdays excepted) up to and including 4th January, 1985 from:

Morgan Grenfell & Co. Limited

New Issue Department

21 Austin Friars

London EC2N 2HB

21st December, 1984

W. Greenwell & Co.

Bow Bells House

Bread Street

London EC4M 9EL

150-160

ODDS SHORTEN AS EARLS BRIG IS PULLED OUT

By HOTSUR

PHIL TUCK, who again steps aside in favour of John Francombe on Burrough Hill Lad at Kempton Park on Boxing Day, has lost another big-race ride. Earls Brig, on whom Tuck finished second at Kelson on Monday, will miss tomorrow's Coral Welsh National.

Predictably, bookmakers reacted to the absence of this 10-1 chance for the Chepstow marathon by shortening several of the leading fancies. Strongest move was for a Kinsman, down to 12-1 from 20s with the sponsors.

Butting-shop punters have grown accustomed to the trend among major firms, who are prone to reduce the odds of horses backed in future feature races without a compensating lengthening of the others.

This to part explains why on-day backers often obtain better value, for course bookmakers still need to balance their books by adjusting to supply and demand.

The major firms, though, in their defence, will say quite reasonably that they do not attract money for other than

sprinter, Sajeda, and a similar horse should be decisive over the sharp Fakenham track. Sylvan Barnum is trained at Epsom by Philip Mitchell, who always sends a strong team to this pre-Christmas meeting. Mitchell may also be on the mark with Valgry Rel (13.50) and Euro-link Bay (13.50).

Fox-U-More fancied

Rising Forest is napped for today's Maniliu Novices Hurdle. Fox-U-More, runner-up in a big field at Newcastle on his latest appearance, and today's two and a half miles on the severe Kelson circuit should suit him ideally.

Fox-U-More, runner-up on each of his three recent outings, deserves a change of fortune. He may end that luckless run in the



Beat The Retreat, seen on his way to winning at Sandown Park earlier this month, reappears in the Finale Junior Hurdle at Chepstow.

Yesterday's Racing

Bold McCormack reaps reward

MATT MCCORMACK, who was in two minds whether to run Will Boreen in the Clives Chase at Hereford yesterday, decided on an attacking policy and was rewarded with a 33-1 win.

Ardent Spy fell at the first fence, and Voice of Progress, the other even odds favourite, was never travelling well, leaving

Will Boreen to dominate the race. Will Boreen appeared to have taken his rival's measure when

Royal fell, and despite coming off a straight line on the turn, Will Boreen ran to hold the

late rally of Voice of Progress by a length and a half.

McCormack took over Will Boreen this season because his chances in Ireland were restricted but the 10-year-old remains in the ownership of the

John Francombe rode his second winner of the month when Petit Pato made a successful debut in the

Coltsfoot Novices Hurdle, though not before overcoming an early scare. Petit Pato slipped

into the second time, but Francombe made it put his hand on the ground on the landing

side to avoid coming out of the saddle.

Petit Pato jumped well for the rest of the race, and with Francombe taking a wide berth to find the better going, he came in 13

lengths clear of Nader, who had been backed from 7-2 to 3-4

favoured. William Price and Dal Burchell, who train at opposite ends of

Elbow Vale, were both on the mark. Chummy's Boy, trained by

Burchell, made the most of his last chance in the Cowslip Selling Handicap Hurdle, and Price's

Mendacius, running for the third time, won by a length and a

half. The Alan himself, held ridden by Chummy's Boy, was closing when he made a

mistake at the last flight.

Chummy's Boy, bought for 425

starts at Ascot, often refuses to

start. "He wouldn't line up for

my son at Warwick last week," said Chummy's Boy's owner.

"I would have put him up for

sale," said Burchell.

Richards double

Gordon Richards completed a

double in the Cardrona Handicap

Hurdle (12.45), when he won by

13 lengths. He had ridden the

winner in the Cardrona Handicap

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Equestrianism

Pony Club reject cap design

THE Pony Club has turned its collective back on the new riding cap created by Christy

Beaufort, after the latter has spent £100,000 on

research, writes Alan Smith.

They have decided that the

new cap is not a standard for the

club, and that the old cap should

be worn. The new cap is not a

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Short Jumping

TARMAC PROVIDE BOOST

By ALAN SMITH

TARMAC are taking over sponsorship of one of the International Equestrian Federation's most important but so far least publicised jumping competitions, at an annual cost of more than £40,000.

Riders from all over the world who are unable to compete abroad for reasons of

hazard, or in the case of South Africa because of veterinary restrictions, will benefit.

Until Tarmac's intervention, it seemed the competition might fade into oblivion, but it is now guaranteed for at least three

years. Riders compete in their own countries over identical courses, with fences as near as possible to a standard set by the F.E.I. Results are then collated to give the overall ranking in each of the three categories determined by height of the fences.

South African riders have dominated the main category, and it is as an indirect result of the 1985 victory by Anneli Wierhorst, formerly of the German team, who until this year has been sponsored by the local branch of Tarmac, that the

Welshman from here has become involved.

Kenneth Jackson, for Tarmac, said yesterday that the firm had

been in South Africa for 20 years, and has never felt he had anything to hide.

May, Tarmac's representative for the International Federation, said that there is no colour bar in jumping competitions in South Africa, and that the firm's interest

cannot be, if there were, they would be thrown out.

Between 35 and 40 countries take part in the F.E.I. competition, and the firm's interest

is not in the money but in the fact that the firm is a

major sponsor of the International Federation, and that the

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South African Golf

Humphreys moves up with fine 67

By ADRIAN FREDERICK in Port Elizabeth

WARREN HUMPHREYS recorded a best-of-the-day 67 (equalled by Fulton Allent) that included only one five—a short hole—to move within four strokes of the lead at the half-way stage of the Goodyear Classic at the Humewood Club, Port Elizabeth, yesterday.

John Bland and Allen shared the lead on seven-under-par 137 with veteran Harold Henning a stroke behind.

Martin Greco, the joint overnight leader, did well to manage a 73 to increasingly difficult conditions as the westerly wind strengthened. On 140, he was only three behind the pace-setters.

Humphreys had a remarkable round, his five came on the 11th when he had the honour on the tee and, as he said, had no idea about which club to use in the first round. He finished 40 yards over the green on the 18th hole and he finished his round with a 67.

"The ball really went into a worse lie. I finished my third, but was fortunate to get my fourth within a yard of the hole and sink the putt."

Difficult greens

Humphreys had pulled poorly in the first round but was more at home on difficult greens yesterday. He was like a fish out of water in the first round but at least he knocked in a few today.

"I was pleased to be three under—after nine, because that is like money in the bank on this course. I was like a fish out of water in the first round but at least I knocked in a few today."

Green said he had not played as well yesterday as he had in his opening 67. "I was a bit nervous and tentative early on," he said after his 73.

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